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Cosmetics — Microbiology — Detection of *Candida albicans*

Cosmétiques — Microbiologie — Détection de Candida albicans



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Foreword

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Introduction

Microbiological examinations of cosmetic products are carried out according to an appropriate microbiological risk analysis in order to ensure their quality and safety for consumers.

Microbiological risk analysis depends on several parameters such as:

- potential alteration of cosmetic products;
- pathogenicity of microorganisms;
- site of application of the cosmetic product (hair, skin, eyes, mucous membranes);
- type of user (adults, children, including under 3 years).

For cosmetics and other topical products, the detection of *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Candida albicans* may be relevant because they can cause skin or eye infections. The detection of other kinds of microorganism might be of interest since those microorganisms (including indicators of faecal contamination, e.g. *Escherichia coli*) suggest hygienic failure during the manufacturing process.