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Cosmetics — Microbiology — Detection of *Escherichia coli*

Cosmétiques — Microbiologie — Détection d'Escherichia coli



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Foreword

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ISO 21150 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 217, *Cosmetics*.

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Introduction

Microbiological examinations of cosmetic products are to be 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, etc.);
- type of users (adults, children under 3 years, etc.).

For cosmetics and other topical products, the detection of skin pathogens such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Candida albicans* may be relevant. The detection of other kinds of microorganisms might be of interest since these microorganisms (including indicators of faecal contamination, e.g. *Escherichia coli*) suggest hygienic failure during manufacturing process.