

Australian Standard™

Methods of testing surgical dressings and surgical dressing materials

Method 7: Method for the determination of level of surface-active substances

PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee MS/5, Institutional Supplies, to supersede AS 2836.7—1985.

This Standard is one of eleven methods of testing. The series is referenced in AS 2835, *Absorbent woven gauze* (both Parts) and AS 4369, *Surgical dressings* (all Parts).

METHOD

1 SCOPE This Standard sets out the method for determining the level of residual surface-active substances in surgical dressings and surgical dressing materials.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

2001 Methods of test for textiles

2001.3.1 Method 3.1: Chemical tests—Determination of pH of aqueous extract

AS/NZS

2243 Safety in laboratories

2243.2 Part 2: Chemical aspects

3 PRINCIPLE Residual surface-active substances are extracted from the material with water. The extract is shaken to produce a foam and the height of the foam is measured to indicate the level of surface-active substances present.

4 REAGENT Sulfuric acid (ρ_{20} 1840 kg/m³) and distilled or deionized water

5 PREPARATION OF AQUEOUS EXTRACT 10 mL of aqueous extract shall be prepared in accordance with AS 2001.3.1, Test A, using a 10.0 ±5 g sample to 100 mL of water.

NOTE: Normally, the test given in this Standard will be performed subsequent to the test described in AS 2001.3.1. In that case, the 10 mL of extract should be reserved from the extract prepared for the previous test, before the pH measurement is taken.