

Determination of the Microbiological Purity of Cleaning Textiles (Bioburden)

Aim

Microbiological cleanliness is determined to ensure the safe use of cleaning textiles. Among other things, it is used to assess the microbiological risk of reusable cleaning cloths or wet wipe covers after hygienic reprocessing.

Testing Standard

DIN 13063 Hospital cleaning - Requirements for cleaning and disinfecting cleaning in hospitals and other medical facilities

The examination is suitable for

- Verification of fulfilment of the requirements for disinfecting washing processes
- Assessment of reprocessed cleaning utensils

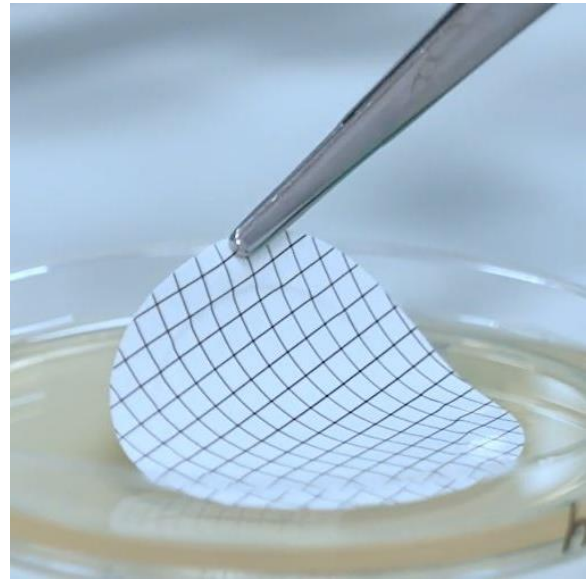
Material to be tested

- Dry cleaning textiles
- Damp cleaning textiles after the washing process
- Cleaning textiles pre-soaked with cleaning agent
- Cleaning textiles pre-soaked with disinfectant



Description of the Procedure

The term "microbiological purity" is described in DIN 13063 as the maximum number of microorganisms in and on the cleaning textile and also as the absence of the hospital germ *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The clean cleaning textile is brought into contact with a defined quantity of dilution solution and physically treated in such a way that the microorganisms are transferred from the cleaning textile into the dilution solution. The so-called eluate is then analyzed quantitatively in the laboratory. The total bacterial count is determined and the presence of the hospital germ *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is tested. Other pathogens can also (optionally) be analyzed for their presence using different cultivation conditions.



Requirements for the Test Sample

General

- Test samples are analyzed as sent in.
- When packaging, care must be taken to ensure that neither the handling nor the packaging material changes the bacterial load.
- Moist test samples should be transported under refrigeration.

Quantity of Test Samples

- One complete cleaning textile each (cleaning cloth, damp wipe cover)

Test Criteria

Conformity with DIN 13063

- Assessment of the total bacterial count
- Exclusion of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and, if applicable, enterobacteria according to the client's specifications

Whereabouts of the Test Samples

- disposal or
- after rinsing and drying, return shipment to the client is possible for a fee



Further microbiological tests in accordance with DIN 13063 can be carried out if required.