

# Requirements and Methods for VAH Certification of Chemical Disinfection Procedures



# Requirements and Methods for VAH Certification of Chemical Disinfection Procedures

Edited by  
VAH Disinfectants Commission

As of 2nd April 2015

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## Requirements and methods for VAH certification of chemical disinfection procedures



These test methods and requirements were developed by the Disinfectants Commission (DC) in the Association for Applied Hygiene (VAH) and the 4+4 work group. Methods 16 and 17 were developed in conjunction with the Robert Koch-Institut (RKI). They replace the publications

- DGHM (2001), Standard DGHM methods for testing chemical disinfection procedures. Status 1st September 2001, mhp-Verlag 2001 [1],
- DGHM (2002), Catalogue of Requirements for the approval of chemical disinfection procedures for the DGHM disinfectant list. Status 4th February 2002, mhp-Verlag 2002 [2]

and the notices on method changes published in *Hygiene & Medizin*, which have been issued since then.

### Preliminary notes

This complete revision of the requirements and test methods was necessary to reflect the current state of science and in particular to integrate the standards that were to date predominantly developed in the Working Group 1 (WG 1) from the CEN/TC 216 on harmonisation of the testing and assessment of disinfectants in Europe a large extent into these methods [3]. Several standards from the CEN/TC 216 have not yet been definitely approved. The applicable current revision status of the CEN norms or the corresponding DIN norms and the exact wording from the detailed publications from Beuth-Verlag GmbH, Berlin, should be considered in the submitted methods.

The test methods described here do not allow conclusions to be drawn about additional properties such as e. g. cleaning efficacy, toxicity and environmental impact.

As is the case for all preventative measures in the healthcare sector, disinfection measures are implemented for the protection of patients, staff and third parties. Areas of application are areas, rooms and situations, in which disinfection is medically indicated. These indications present themselves in patient care, for example in hospitals, other medical establishments and in dental treatments as well as in the case of the frequent occurrence (outbreaks) of certain infectious diseases in schools, nurseries,

nursing homes, care facilities, rehabilitation facilities and health resorts or even at the workplace or in the home. Laundries and ward kitchens in hospitals which deliver products to patients are also included. They can also be used in service facilities, such as e.g. hairdressers, in manicures and pedicures, at opticians, ear piercers, tattooists and acupuncturists. Specific hygienic requirements that are subject to food legislation apply to commercial kitchens and their preparation and follow-up rooms due to the conditions prevailing there (temperatures, interfering substances). Products for this sector are generally tested according to the test methods laid down by the German Veterinary Medical Society (DVG).

The test methods described here should be construed as standard methods. They contain the experimental approaches for performance testing of means and procedures for hand, surface, instrument and textile disinfection or skin antiseptics. The responsibility for the suitability of these standard methods for testing the respective procedure, but also for modification of the methods, is borne by the assessor. It can on one hand be necessary in the case of certain products, in particular in the case of new active ingredients or known problems in established active ingredients, to implement methodical amendments or extensions to characterise effectiveness. On the other hand modifications are approved when they have been sufficiently standardised and as such the informative value has been enhanced. In either case all deviations from and supplements to the standard methods shall be stated, described and substantiated in the test report.

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### References

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