IEC 61526

Edition 4.0 2024-03

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Radiation protection instrumentation – Measurement of personal dose equivalents for X, gamma, neutron and beta radiations – Active personal dosemeters

Instrumentation pour la radioprotection – Mesure des équivalents de dose individuels pour les rayonnements X, gamma, neutron et bêta – Dosimètres individuels actifs

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RADIATION PROTECTION INSTRUMENTATION – MEASUREMENT OF PERSONAL DOSE EQUIVALENTS FOR X, GAMMA, NEUTRON AND BETA RADIATIONS – ACTIVE PERSONAL DOSEMETERS

FOREWORD

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IEC 61526 has been prepared by subcommittee 45B: Radiation protection instrumentation, of IEC technical committee 45: Nuclear instrumentation. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2010. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

a) Modification of the title;
b) Inclusion of the measurement quantity for the dose in the lens of the eye, $H_p(3)$;
c) Inclusion of measurement quantity for dose in the skin and extremities, $H_p(0{,}07)$;

d) Inclusion of dosemeters between active and passive: "hybrid dosemeters";

e) Inclusion of software requirements;

f) Harmonization of requirements for linearity to IEC 62387;

g) Revised neutron energy response requirements.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
45B/1047/FDIS	45B/1049/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
- revised.

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INTRODUCTION

This document applies to active, (direct reading or hybrid) personal dosemeters and monitors used for measuring personal dose equivalents $H_p(10)$, $H_p(3)$, and $H_p(0,07)$, for X, gamma, neutron, and beta radiations.

For personal dose equivalent $H_p(10)$ and for X and gamma radiation, two minimum rated ranges for the photon energy are given. The first from 20 keV to 150 keV is for workplaces where low energy X-rays are used, e.g., in diagnostic medicine, the second from 80 keV to 1,25 MeV is for workplaces where high energy X-rays and/or gamma sources are used, e.g., in industry. For neutron radiation the minimum rated range of neutron energy is from 0,025 eV (thermal neutrons) to 10 MeV. The rated ranges can be extended to all energies covered by the respective standards for reference radiation fields.

For personal dose equivalent $H_p(3)$ and for X and gamma radiation, a minimum rated range for photon energy from 30 keV to 250 keV is given. For personal dose equivalent $H_p(0,07)$ a range of 30 keV to 1250 keV or, for workplaces where low energy X-rays are used, 20 keV to 150 keV, is given. For beta radiation for both quantities, the minimal rated range is from 0,24 MeV to 0,8 MeV (mean beta particle energy). The rated ranges can be extended to all energies covered by the respective standards for reference radiation fields.

In some applications, for example, at a nuclear reactor installation where 6 MeV photon radiation is present, measurement of personal dose equivalent (rate) $H_p(10)$ for photon energies up to 10 MeV should be required. In some other applications, measurement of $H_p(10)$ down to 10 keV should be required.

For personal dosemeters, requirements for measuring the dose quantities $H_p(10)$, $H_p(3)$, and $H_p(0,07)$, and for monitoring of the respective dose rate quantities are given. The measurement of these dose rate quantities is an option for personal dosemeters.

Establishments in some countries may be permitted to use this type of personal dosemeter as the dosemeter to provide the dose of record by an approved dosimetry service.

RADIATION PROTECTION INSTRUMENTATION – MEASUREMENT OF PERSONAL DOSE EQUIVALENTS FOR X, GAMMA, NEUTRON AND BETA RADIATIONS – ACTIVE PERSONAL DOSEMETERS

1 Scope

This document applies to personal dosemeters with the following characteristics:

a) They are worn on the trunk, close to the eye, or on the extremities.
b) They measure the personal dose equivalents $H_p(10)$, $H_p(3)$, and $H_p(0,07)$, from external X and gamma, neutron (not for $H_p(3)$), and beta radiations, and may measure the respective personal dose equivalent rates for the same radiations (for alarming purposes).
c) They have a digital indication. This indication may or may not be attached.
d) They have alarm functions for the personal dose equivalents or personal dose equivalent rates except for hybrid dosemeters. For hybrid dosemeters an alarm function for the personal dose equivalents shall be implemented in the associated readout system.

NOTE 1 When reference is made in this document to "dose", this is meant to indicate personal dose equivalent, unless otherwise stated.

NOTE 2 When reference is made in this document to "dosemeter", this is meant to include all personal dosemeters, unless otherwise stated.

NOTE 3 This document does not cover neutron dosemeters for the $H_p(3)$ measurements up to now.

This document specifies requirements for the dosemeter and, if supplied, for its associated readout system.

Usually, a dosemeter is not able to measure all quantities given above. Thus, the dosemeter is only tested with regard to those quantities and types of radiation it is intended to be used for. Other types of radiation are considered as influence quantities which also may have requirements.

This document specifies, for the dosemeters described above, general characteristics, general test procedures, radiation characteristics as well as electrical, mechanical, safety and environmental characteristics. The only requirements specified for associated readout systems are those which affect its accuracy of readout of the personal dose equivalent and alarm settings, and those which concern the influence of the reader on the dosemeter.

This document does not cover special requirements for accident or emergency dosimetry, although the dosemeters may be used for this purpose.

This document does not apply to dosemeters used for measurement of pulsed radiation, such as radiation emanating from many medical diagnostic X-ray facilities, linear accelerators or similar equipment.

NOTE 4 Requirements and testing procedure for dosemeters used in pulsed field of ionizing radiation can be found in IEC TS 63050 or IEC TS 62743.

This document does not apply for dosemeters to measure ambient or directional dose equivalent.

NOTE 5 Requirements for ambient or directional dose equivalent meters can be found e.g. in: IEC 60846-1; IEC 62387, IEC 61017 or IEC 60532.