



BSI Standards Publication

## Biological evaluation of medical devices

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Part 12: Sample preparation and reference materials

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 10993-12:2021. It is identical to ISO 10993-12:2021. It supersedes BS EN ISO 10993-12:2012, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CH/194, Biological evaluation of medical devices.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

This publication has been prepared under a mandate given to the European Standards Organizations by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association. It is intended to support essential requirements of the EU legislation detailed in the European Foreword. A European Annex, usually Annex ZA or ZZ, describes how this publication relates to that EU legislation.

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

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NORME EUROPÉENNE

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Supersedes EN ISO 10993-12:2012

English Version

## Biological evaluation of medical devices - Part 12: Sample preparation and reference materials (ISO 10993-12:2021)

Évaluation biologique des dispositifs médicaux  
- Partie 12: Préparation des échantillons et  
matériaux de référence (ISO 10993-12:2021)

Biologische Beurteilung von Medizinprodukten  
- Teil 12: Probenvorbereitung und  
Referenzmaterialien (ISO 10993-12:2021)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 15 September 2020.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

## European foreword

This document (EN ISO 10993-12:2021) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 194 "Biological and clinical evaluation of medical devices" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 206 "Biological and clinical evaluation of medical devices" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by December 2021, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2021.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN ISO 10993-12:2012.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive(s).

For the relationship with EU Directive(s) see informative [Annex ZA](#), which is integral part of this document.

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. However, for any use of this standard 'within the meaning of [Annex ZA](#), the user should always check that any referenced document has not been superseded and that its relevant contents can still be considered the generally acknowledged state-of-art.

When an IEC or ISO standard is referred to in the ISO standard text, this shall be understood as a normative reference to the corresponding EN standard, if available, and otherwise to the dated version of the ISO or IEC standard, as listed below.

NOTE The way in which these referenced documents are cited in normative requirements determines the extent (in whole or in part) to which they apply.

**Table — Correlations between undated normative references and dated EN and ISO standards**

References as listed in the ISO standard	Equivalent dated standard	
	EN	ISO or IEC
ISO 10993-1	EN ISO 10993-1:2020 <sup>a</sup>	ISO 10993-1:2018
ISO 10993-5	EN ISO 10993-5:2009	ISO 10993-5:2009
ISO 10993-17	EN ISO 10993-17:2009	ISO 10993-17:2002
ISO 10993-18	EN ISO 10993-18:2020 <sup>a</sup>	ISO 10993-18:2020

<sup>a</sup> Under preparation at European level.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

### Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 10993-12:2021 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 10993-12:2021 without any modification.

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 194, *Biological and clinical evaluation of medical devices*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 206, *Biological and clinical evaluation of medical devices*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition (ISO 10993-12:2012), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- change of scope to cover extractions only for biological evaluation tests;
- harmonization of definitions with ISO 10993-18;
- revision of [10.3.1](#) extraction condition table and [Annex D](#) regarding exhaustive extraction.

A list of all parts in the ISO 10993 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## **Introduction**

It is important that sample preparation methods be appropriate for both the biological evaluation methods and the materials being evaluated. Each biological test method requires the selection of materials, extraction solvents and conditions.

This document is based on existing national and international standards and regulations, wherever possible.



# Biological evaluation of medical devices —

## Part 12:

# Sample preparation and reference materials

## 1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and gives guidance on the procedures in the preparation of samples and the selection of reference materials for medical device testing primarily in biological test systems primarily in accordance with one or more parts of the ISO 10993 series.

Specifically, this document addresses the following:

- test sample selection;
- selection of representative portions from a medical device;
- test sample preparation;
- experimental controls;
- selection of, and requirements for, reference materials;
- preparation of extracts.

This document is not applicable to live cells but can be relevant to the material or medical device components of combination products containing live cells.

Extractions for chemical characterization are covered in ISO 10993-18. [Clause 7](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#) [with the exception of 10.3.5 and 10.3.11 b)], and [11](#) can apply to extractions for chemical characterization. Information given in [C.1](#) to [C.4](#) can also be relevant.

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### **blank**

extraction vehicle not containing the test material, which is exposed to identical vessels and conditions as the test sample during extraction

Note 1 to entry: The purpose of the blank is to evaluate possible confounding effects due to the extraction vessel, extraction vehicle and extraction process.