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Water quality — Evaluation of genotoxicity by measurement of the induction of micronuclei —

Part 2: Mixed population method using the cell line V79

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Qualité de l'eau — Évaluation de la génotoxicité par le mesurage de l'induction de micronoyaux —

Partie 2: Méthode de la population mélangée à l'aide de la lignée de cellules V79

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Contents

Page

Foreword iv
1 Scope 1
2 Normative references 1
3 Terms and definitions 1
4 Principle 3
5 Interferences 3
6 Reagents and media 3
7 Apparatus 7
8 Test facility criteria 7
9 Procedure 8
10 Evaluation and assessment 12
11 Precision 14
12 Test report 14
Annex A (informative) Bromodeoxyuridine (BrdU) method 15
Annex B (informative) Evaluation schemes 17
Annex C (normative) S9 fraction 18
Annex D (informative) Precision data 19
Bibliography 20

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https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/681d195b-f98b-4b16-9abf-
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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 21427-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Biological methods*.

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ISO 21427 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Water quality — Evaluation of genotoxicity by measurement of the induction of micronuclei*:

— *Part 1: Evaluation of genotoxicity using amphibian larvae*

— *Part 2: Mixed population method using the cell line V79*

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Water quality — Evaluation of genotoxicity by measurement of the induction of micronuclei —

Part 2: Mixed population method using the cell line V79

WARNING — Persons using this part of ISO 21427 should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices and to ensure compliance with any national regulatory conditions.

IMPORTANT — It is absolutely essential that tests conducted according to this part of ISO 21427 be carried out by suitably trained staff.

1 Scope

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This part of ISO 21427 specifies a method for the determination of genotoxicity of water and waste water using a mammalian *in vitro* test which detects damage, induced by water-soluble substances, to the chromosomes or the mitotic apparatus of V79 cells from the Chinese hamster.

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The micronucleus test allows the identification of substances that cause cytogenetic damage which results in the formation of micronuclei containing lagging chromosome fragments and/or whole chromosomes.

The assay is based on the increase in the frequency of micronucleated cells after incubation with and without metabolic activation.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 5667-16, *Water quality — Sampling — Part 16: Guidance on biotesting of samples*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1
cell lines
distinct families of cells grown in culture originated from a single clone

3.2
cofactor solution
aqueous solution of chemicals (e.g. NADP, Glucose-6-phosphate and inorganic salts) needed for the activity of the enzymes in the S9 fraction

3.3
dilution level D
denominator of the dilution coefficient (using the numerator 1) of a mixture of water or waste water with dilution water as integral number

NOTE For undiluted water or waste water, this coefficient is per definition 1:1. The corresponding smallest possible D value is 1.

3.4
D value
smallest value of D at which, under the conditions of this part of ISO 21427, no increase in the number of micronuclei per culture is detected

NOTE In the case of more than one D value (at maximum two are possible, see 9.2), the highest D value is decisive.

3.5
karyotype
characteristic of the nucleus of a cell, including its size, form and chromosome number

3.6
micronuclei
small particles consisting of acentric fragments of chromosomes and/or entire chromosomes which lag behind at anaphase stage of cell division and form, after telophase, single or multiple micronuclei in the cytoplasm

3.7
mitotic index
percentage of cells of a cell population under division at a particular time of observation

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3.8
plating efficiency
measure of the number of colonies originated from single cells

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3.9
proliferation index
rate at which cells are dividing within the culture

3.10
proliferation rate
rate with which cells replicate, calculated by a formula which takes into account 1, 2, 4 and 8 cell stages of clones

3.11
S9 fraction
9 000 g supernatant of a tissue homogenate in 0,15 mol/l KCl, obtained from livers of male rats (200 g to 300 g) pretreated with an appropriate substance or substance combination for enzyme induction

3.12
S9 mix
mixture of the S9 fraction and the cofactor solution

3.13
stock culture
frozen culture for the preservation of the characteristics of V79 cells

3.14
survival index
percentage of surviving cells compared to all cells, used as index of toxicity

3.15
test culture
culture of cells used for the study

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4 Principle

The possible clastogenic and/or aneugenic activity of the test sample is detected by comparing, for the respective activation condition, the number of micronucleated cells in cultures treated with the negative control and the number in cultures treated with undiluted and diluted test samples, respectively.

During cell division, chromatid fragments without centromers will not move to the nuclei of the daughter cells and will stay within the cytoplasm. Part of the chromosome aberrations induced by the test item will be chromatid fragments without centromers and will, therefore, not be incorporated in the nuclei of the daughter cells. In addition, spindle disorders may lead to chromosomes which are not incorporated into the nucleus. These particles will form micronuclei in the plasma.

V79 cells are exposed for 24 h (4 h with the S9 mix) to a range of concentrations of a test sample. Thereafter, slides are prepared, and cells are stained and evaluated for the presence of micronucleated cells. An increased incidence of these micronucleated cells in comparison to the negative control indicates that the test item may cause chromosome breaks or spindle disorders in V79 cells *in vitro*.

5 Interferences

Biologically relevant alterations of the culture conditions may induce chromosome aberration due to secondary mechanisms resulting in artificial positive and, therefore, irrelevant results [16]. Those factors are, e.g. stronger changes in osmolality or pH, precipitation of test sample and phagocytosis thereof, and strong cytotoxic effects of the test sample. Therefore, test samples should be monitored at least for changes in pH or osmolality of the cultures using the same proportion of test item per culture as will be used later under test conditions. If there is a shift in pH in the culture, the test item should be adjusted to pH 7,0 ± 0,2. If there is a change in osmolality, the highest concentration used in the test has to be reduced so that no relevant alteration of osmolality occurs in the cultures. To avoid artifacts based on phagocytosis or severe cytotoxicity, limitations are given for the highest concentration, which should be used for testing (see 9.1 and 9.2).

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https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/681d195b-f98b-4b16-9abf-1831a64ab228/iso-21427-2-2006

6 Reagents and media

As far as possible use “reagent grade” chemicals.

If chemicals with different amounts of water of crystallization are used, calculate the needed amounts accordingly.

Always perform autoclaving for 20 min at 121 °C ± 2 °C. Cover vessels loosely (e.g. with aluminium foil). Never seal air-tight.

6.1 Water.

Prepare all aqueous solutions with water of a conductivity of ⩽ 5 µS/cm.

6.2 Reagents.

6.2.1 Glucose-6-phosphate dihydrate, $C_6H_{11}O_9PNa_2 \cdot 2\ H_2O$.

6.2.2 Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate disodium salt, NADP, $C_{21}H_{26}N_7Na_2O_{17}P_3$.

6.2.3 Magnesium chloride hexahydrate, $MgCl_2 \cdot 6\ H_2O$.

6.2.4 Potassium dihydrogenphosphate, KH_2PO_4.

6.2.5 di-Sodium hydrogenphosphate dihydrate, $Na_2HPO_4 \cdot 2\ H_2O$.

6.2.6 Ethanol (absolute), C_2H_5OH.

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6.2.7 Glacial acetic acid, CH_3COOH.

6.2.8 Formaldehyde, HCHO, 37 % volume fraction.

6.2.9 tri-Sodium citrate dihydrate, $HOC(COONa)(CH_2COONa)_2 \cdot 2\ H_2O$.

6.2.10 di-Sodium hydrogenphosphate, Na_2HPO_4.

6.2.11 Sodium dihydrogenphosphate, NaH_2PO_4.

6.2.12 May-Grünwald-solution, modified [1)].

6.2.13 Hydrochloric acid, c(HCl) = 1 mol/l.

6.2.14 Sodium hydroxide solution, c(NaOH) = 1 mol/l.

6.2.15 Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), $C_2H_6SO_4$.

6.2.16 Positive controls.

6.2.16.1 Cyclophosphamide, monohydrate, $C_7H_{15}Cl_2N_2O_2P \cdot H_2O$.

CAS Registration No: 6055-19-2.

6.2.16.2 Ethyl-methane sulfonate (EMS), $CH_3SO_3CH_2CH_3$.

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CAS Registration No: 62-50-0.

6.2.17 Sodium citrate solution for hypotonic treatment.

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Prepare a 1,5 % solution of tri-sodium citrate in water.

6.2.18 Fixation solution.

Mix 50 ml of glacial acetic acid with 150 ml of ethanol, add 2,5 ml of a 37 % formaldehyde solution.

6.2.19 Buffer solution according to WEISE (pH 7,2) [1)].

This solution is commercially available in ampoules. Dilute the contents of one ampoule in water and, using a 1 000 ml measuring flask, bring to volume with water.

6.2.20 Giemsa solution [1)].

Prepare a 2,6 % Giemsa solution in buffer according to WEISE (pH 7,2) (6.2.19). Filter prior to use.

6.2.21 Phosphate buffer.

Dissolve 2,13 g of Na_2HPO_4 in 1 l water. Dissolve 1,8 g of NaH_2PO_4 in 1 l water. Mix both solutions at the ratio of 4:1 and adjust to a final pH of 7,4.

6.2.22 MEM-medium (= Minimal Essential Medium) with stabilized glutamine [1)].

6.2.23 Fetal bovine serum (= FCS) [1)].

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1) This reagent is commercially available. This information is given for the convenience of users of this part of ISO 21427 and does not constitute an endorsement by ISO of these products.

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6.2.24 Penicillin/Streptomycin solution, 10 000 E/10 000 µg/ml [1)].

6.2.25 Amphotericin-B solution, 250 µg/ml [1)].

6.2.26 Trypsin/EDTA solution, 0,25 % [1)].

6.2.27 Hanks' Balanced Salt Solution (= HBSS) [1)].

6.2.28 Hanks' Balanced Salt Solution (= HBSS) without Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} [1)].

6.2.29 Potassium chloride solution.

Dissolve 4 g of potassium chloride, in 1 l water.

6.3 Preparation of culture media

6.3.1 Culture medium with FCS.

This medium is used as general culture medium and for treatment of cells without the S9 mix.

Mix 500 ml of MEM-medium, 50 ml of FCS, 5 ml of Penicillin/Streptomycin solution and 5 ml of Amphotericin-B solution.

The medium is stable for up to 4 weeks if stored in a refrigerator at 4 °C ± 2 °C.

6.3.2 Culture medium without FCS.

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This medium is used only for the treatment period of cells under activation condition (S9 mix).

Mix 500 ml of MEM-medium, 5 ml of Penicillin/Streptomycin solution and 5 ml of Amphotericin-B solution.

ISO 21427-2:2006
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f831a64ab228/iso-21427-2-2006

The medium is stable for up to 4 weeks if stored in a refrigerator at 4 °C ± 2 °C.

6.4 Cell system.

6.4.1 Cell line, storage

The V79 cell line is a permanent cell line of Chinese hamster lung cells with

- a high proliferation rate (cell cycle length about 12 h to 16 h);
- a high plating efficiency (⩾ 90 %);
- a stable karyotype (modal number of chromosomes = 22).

Store permanent cultures (1 ml samples including 7 % DMSO) in liquid nitrogen at about –196 °C. Prior to freezing, check each batch for mycoplasma contamination. Karyotype and plating efficiency (colony-forming ability) should be determined at least prior to the first use of a thawed culture.

6.4.2 Cultivation

To start a culture, thaw a permanent culture in a water bath at 37 °C and add 0,5 ml of this sample to a 25 cm^2 culture flask filled already with approximately 5 ml of MEM (minimal essential medium; composed of medium, glutamine and antibiotics) including 10 % FCS (fetal calf serum). Cultivate the cells at 37 °C, using 5 % carbon dioxide and a humidity of at least 90 %. Subcultivate the cells twice a week.

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Withdraw the flasks (25 cm^2) from the incubator and place them on a clean bench. Open the flasks singly and remove the medium by suction. Wash the cells once with 5 ml Hanks Balanced Salt Solution (HBBS, without Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+}) for about 5 min. Thereafter, remove the medium again.

Trypsinize the cells for about 5 min using about 1,0 ml of trypsine (0,25 %) and approximately 1,0 ml HBBS (without Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+}) to separate the cells from the bottom of the culture flask.

Stop this reaction by adding approximately 3 ml of MEM including 10 % FCS.

Pipette this mixture several times to separate the cells from the flask and to obtain homogenous single cell suspensions.

Count the number of cells in a 10 µl sample in a hemocytometer [2)].

Dilute the suspension to the required cell density (30 000 to 80 000 per culture) using MEM including 10 % of FCS.

6.4.3 Duration of cell cycle

The cell cycle length of the V79 cells is normally about 12 h to 16 h. Determine its laboratory specific length using the BrdU[3)] method (see Annex A).

6.5 Metabolic activation

6.5.1 S9 fraction

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For the treatment of enzyme induction and preparation of the S9 fraction, see Annex C. If the S9 fraction is commercially purchased, it shall have been prepared (including enzyme induction) according to Annex C.

6.5.2 S9 mix

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0631fe4bb628/iso-21427-2-2006

Prepare the needed amount of the S9 fraction freshly on the day of test or, if stored frozen, thaw at room temperature. Immediately thereafter, prepare the S9 mix by mixing the following compounds under sterile conditions:

a) 1 aliquot of S9 fraction;

b) 9 aliquots of S9 supplement (cofactor solution).

Keep the S9 mix permanently on ice (e.g. in a double-walled separator funnel containing iced water in between these walls) and use it only on the same day. At the end of this day, discard the remaining S9 mix. The concentrations of cofactors in the S9 mix are as follows:

$MgCl_2$	8 mmol/l
KCl	33 mmol/l
Glucose-6-phosphate	5 mmol/l
NADP	4 mmol/l
Phosphate buffer (pH 7,4)	15 mmol/l

2) Alternatively, an automatic cell or particle counter device may be used.

3) BrdU stands for bromodeoxyuridine.

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7 Apparatus

7.1 Cryo-vials, 1 ml, 2 ml, 5 ml.

7.2 Cell culture flasks, 25 cm^2, 75 cm^2.

7.3 Culture chambers, appropriate for 4 microscope slides, approx. 9 cm × 13 cm.

7.4 Microscope slides with frosted part.

7.5 CO_2 incubator.

7.6 Laminar-airflow work bench.

7.7 Water bath.

7.8 Vacuum pump.

7.9 Inverse microscope.

7.10 Light microscope.

7.11 Bunsen burner.

7.12 Centrifuge.

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7.13 Freezer (–80 °C).

7.14 Analytical balance.

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7.15 Glass pipettes, 1 ml, 5 ml, 10 ml.

7.16 Adjustable volume pipettes.

7.17 Neubauer counting chamber.

7.18 Photographic clips.

7.19 Dewar tank for storage of the cells in liquid nitrogen.

7.20 Tweezers.

7.21 Cuvettes including holders for staining.

7.22 Sterile filters, 0,22 µm.

8 Test facility criteria

The test facility is qualified for the execution of this part of ISO 21427 if the *in vitro* micronucleus test is established in this facility according to the following criteria:

— a couple of independent experiments shall already have been performed;

— a couple of known mutagenic and non-mutagenic chemicals shall already have been tested.

It should be decided case by case whether and to what extent additional instructions may be necessary for the application of this part of ISO 21427.

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