



Designation: F619 – 20

Standard Practice for Extraction of Materials Used in Medical Devices¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F619; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers methods of extraction of medical plastics and may be applicable to other materials. This practice identifies a method for obtaining “extract liquid” for use in determining the biological response in preclinical testing. Further testing of the “extract liquid” is specified in other ASTM standards. The extract may undergo chemical analysis as part of the preclinical evaluation of the biological response, and the material after extraction may also be examined.

1.2 This practice may be used for, but is not limited to, the following areas: partial evaluation of raw materials, auditing materials within the manufacturing process, and testing final products. This practice may also be used as a reference method for the measurement of extractables in plastics used in medical devices. In general, it is the responsibility of the user of the standard to determine if the methods described in this standard are appropriate for the materials in their device.

1.3 This practice was initially developed for extraction of medical plastics not intended to undergo degradation or absorption during normal medical device usage. When applied to the extraction of absorbable materials, additional considerations may be necessary in the selection of extraction procedures and fluids.

1.4 For assessment of compatibility of the Single-use System material with the cell culture medium or the manufacturing processes used for cell-based therapeutics, vaccines, cell-based diagnostics, or other biopharmaceutical products, the user should refer to Guide [E3231](#).

1.5 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to inch-pound units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appro-*

priate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[D543 Practices for Evaluating the Resistance of Plastics to Chemical Reagents](#)

[D570 Test Method for Water Absorption of Plastics](#)

[D1239 Test Method for Resistance of Plastic Films to Extraction by Chemicals](#)

[E3231 Guide for Cell Culture Growth Assessment of Single-Use Material](#)

[F748 Practice for Selecting Generic Biological Test Methods for Materials and Devices](#)

2.2 Other Documents:

[USP NF 24 or current edition](#)³

3. Definitions

3.1 *extraction vehicle*—a liquid specified for use in testing the test specimen. Specific extraction vehicles are to be designated by the ASTM standard that references this practice (see Section 7 for a list of standard extraction vehicles).

3.2 *extract liquid*—that liquid which, after extraction of the specimen, is used in tests.

3.3 *specimen portion*—the unit or units of test specimen placed into the extraction vehicle.

3.4 *blank*—the extraction vehicle not containing the specimen under test which is used for comparison with the extract liquid.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F04 on Medical and Surgical Materials and Devices and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F04.16 on Biocompatibility Test Methods.

Current edition approved Aug. 1, 2020. Published September 2020. Originally approved in 1979. Last previous edition approved in 2014 as F619 – 14. DOI: 10.1520/F0619-20.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For Annual Book of ASTM Standards volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP), 12601 Twinbrook Pkwy., Rockville, MD 20852-1790, <http://www.usp.org>.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 Standard-size specimens of the final product or materials used in its construction, which may closely simulate the intended device depending upon the use, are immersed in defined volumes of selected liquids (extraction vehicles) for the time and temperature specified.

4.2 A choice is made, based on the end use, of the extraction vehicles (see Section 7) and one of the combinations of time and temperature for the test (see Section 12).

4.3 The resultant test liquids (extract liquids) are kept in suitable containers as described in 6.3 until used for testing. The test liquids shall be stored tightly stoppered at normal room temperature. Test liquids for biological testing are kept in sterile containers. Extraction should be done under aseptic conditions for use in biological testing, unless otherwise justified. The test liquids for biological testing should be used within 24 h.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 These extraction procedures are the initial part of several test procedures used in the biocompatibility screening of plastics or other materials used in medical devices.

5.2 The limitations of the results obtained from this practice should be recognized. The choices of the extraction vehicle, duration of immersion, and temperature of the test are necessarily arbitrary. The specification of these conditions provides a basis for standardization and serves as a guide to investigators wishing to compare the relative resistance of various plastics or other materials to extraction vehicles.

5.3 Correlation of test results with the actual performance or serviceability of materials is necessarily dependent upon the similarity between the testing and end-use conditions (see 12.1.2 and Note 7).

5.4 Caution should be exercised in the understanding and intent of this practice as follows:

5.4.1 No allowance or distinction is made for variables such as end-use application and duration of use. Decisions on selection of tests to be done should be made based on Practice F748.

5.4.2 This practice was originally designed for use with nonporous, solid materials. Its application for other materials, such as those that are porous, absorptive (for example, sponge-like materials that are capable of absorbing liquid), or resorptive, should be considered with caution. Consideration should be given to altering the specified material-to-liquid ratio to allow additional liquid to fully hydrate the material and additional liquid or other methods to fully submerge the test specimen. Additional procedures that fully remove the extract liquid from the test specimen, such as pressure or physically squeezing the material, should also be considered as appropriate. Although no definitions are given in this practice for the following terms, such items as extraction vehicle surface tension at the specified extraction condition and test specimen physical structure should be taken into account.

NOTE 1—While there are no standardized methods available at present for determining the solvent absorption capacity of an absorptive device or

material, a suggested protocol is as follows:

- Determine the volume of extraction vehicle that each 0.1 g or 1.0 cm² of device/material absorbs;
- then, in performing the extraction, add this additional volume to each 0.1 g or 1.0 cm² in an extraction mixture.

5.5 Test Methods D570 and D1239 and Practices D543 may be useful in providing supplemental information.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Autoclave (for 121°C extractions)*, capable of maintaining a temperature of 121 ± 2.0°C (249.8 ± 3.8°F) for at least 1 h and equipped with a display of temperature and pressure. A slow exhaust cycle is necessary. A rack to hold the extraction containers above the water level is also necessary. Loss of fluid volume should be recorded.

6.1.1 Sealed, unvented extraction vessels should not be removed until the internal temperature and pressure have reached ambient conditions and the door can be opened. It is recommended that the extraction vessels be left undisturbed until any risk of boil-over has passed. When the extraction vessels are cool to the touch, the lids should be sealed.

6.2 *Heating Equipment (for other temperature extractions):*

6.2.1 Ovens or incubators that will maintain temperatures of 37, 50, 70 ± 2°C (98, 122, 158 ± 3°F).

6.2.2 Water baths capable of maintaining temperatures described in 6.2.1. Those with the ability to agitate the extraction vessels are preferred.

6.3 *Extraction Containers*—Suitable containers that protect the extract liquid from the biological and chemical contamination. They should allow expansion of the liquid, but then be sealed to prevent evaporation. One suggested container is the screw-cap culture test tube of borosilicate glass, unless a larger container is required for the size and shape of the material to be extracted. Screw caps, if used, shall have polytetrafluoroethylene liners.

6.4 *Balance*, accurate to ±0.1 mg.

6.4.1 Caution should be exercised when performing weighings in glassware. Depending upon the required accuracy, the relative humidity should be the same for weighings at different times.

6.5 *Micrometers*, capable of measuring dimensions of test specimens to 0.025 mm (0.001 in.).

7. Reagents and Materials

7.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade, or better, chemicals shall be used in all tests.⁴ Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

⁴ *Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For Suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Annual Standards for Laboratory Chemicals*, BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary*, U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.