

---

---

## Cosmetics — Guidelines on the stability testing of cosmetic products

*Cosmétiques — Lignes directrices relatives aux essais de stabilité des  
produits cosmétiques*





**COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT**

© ISO 2018

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, or required in the context of its implementation, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office  
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland  
Tel. +41 22 749 01 11  
Fax +41 22 749 09 47  
copyright@iso.org  
www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

# Contents

Page

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>4 Basic principles of cosmetic stability</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5 Aspects to be addressed during stability testing</b>	<b>3</b>
5.1 General	3
5.2 Stage/scale of tested batches	3
5.3 Test procedures and conditions	4
5.3.1 Principle	4
5.3.2 Temperature and humidity	4
5.3.3 Cycling of temperature and/or humidity	5
5.3.4 Vibration	6
5.3.5 Centrifugation	6
5.3.6 Exposure to light (photostability)	6
5.4 Physical, physico-chemical and chemical alterations	7
5.4.1 Physical destabilization phenomena of different product types	7
5.4.2 Chemical destabilization processes	8
5.4.3 Destabilization phenomena	9
5.4.4 Specific test methods	10
5.5 Microbiological aspects	12
5.5.1 General	12
5.5.2 Microbiological parameters	12
5.5.3 Testing conditions	12
5.5.4 Microbiological specifications	13
5.5.5 Interpretation of results	13
5.6 Interaction with packaging	13
5.6.1 General information	13
5.6.2 Types of packing materials and main possible evaluations	13
5.6.3 Pressure vessels (aerosols)	14
<b>6 Stability test conclusions</b>	<b>14</b>
6.1 Evaluation	14
6.2 Report	14
<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>15</b>

## 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 on 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 the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 217, *Cosmetics*.