
**Glassware — Hydrolytic resistance
of the interior surfaces of glass
containers —**

Part 2:
**Determination by flame spectrometry
and classification**

*Verrerie — Résistance hydrolytique des surfaces internes des
récipients en verre —*

Partie 2: Détermination par spectrométrie de flamme et classification



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

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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).

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).

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 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.

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 76, *Transfusion, infusion and injection, and blood processing equipment for medical and pharmaceutical use*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 4802-2:2010), which has been technically revised in particular by amending

- the subclauses on water (test water and purified water),
- the test procedure, and
- the subclause on autoclave and steam sterilizer respectively.

ISO 4802 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Glassware — Hydrolytic resistance of the interior surfaces of glass containers*:

- *Part 1: Determination by titration method and classification*
- *Part 2: Determination by flame spectrometry and classification*

Introduction

This part of ISO 4802 is largely based on a method of test approved by the International Commission on Glass (ICG), Technical Committee 2, *Chemical Durability and Analysis*, for measuring the hydrolytic resistance of the interior surfaces of glass containers.

This part of ISO 4802 contains a classification which is related to but not equivalent to the classification set up in ISO 4802-1 for the titration method.

Glassware — Hydrolytic resistance of the interior surfaces of glass containers —

Part 2: Determination by flame spectrometry and classification

1 Scope

This part of ISO 4802 specifies:

- a) methods for determining the hydrolytic resistance of the interior surfaces of glass containers when subjected to attack by water at (121 ± 1) °C for (60 ± 1) min. The resistance is measured by determining the amount of sodium and other alkali metal or alkaline earth oxides in the extraction solution using flame atomic emission or absorption spectrometry (flame spectrometry);
- b) a classification of glass containers according to the hydrolytic resistance of the interior surfaces determined by the methods specified in this part of ISO 4802.

The test method specified in this part of ISO 4802 might not be applicable to containers whose surfaces have been treated with silicon (e.g. containers that are ready for direct filling).

2 Normative references

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

ISO 385, *Laboratory glassware — Burettes*

ISO 719, *Glass — Hydrolytic resistance of glass grains at 98 degrees C — Method of test and classification*

ISO 720, *Glass — Hydrolytic resistance of glass grains at 121 degrees C — Method of test and classification*

ISO 1042, *Laboratory glassware — One-mark volumetric flasks*

ISO 3819, *Laboratory glassware — Beakers*

ISO 9187-1, *Injection equipment for medical use — Part 1: Ampoules for injectables*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1

ampoule

small, normally flat-bottomed container having stems in many different forms

Note 1 to entry: Ampoules are usually thin-walled and have a capacity normally up to 30 ml. They are intended to be closed, after filling, by flame sealing.

3.2

bottle

flat-bottomed container, made from moulded glass

Note 1 to entry: Bottles are normally thick-walled and have a capacity usually of more than 5 ml. They may be of circular or other geometric cross-section. Bottles are sealed with a closure made from a material other than glass, and not by flame-sealing.

3.3

brimful capacity

volume of water required to fill a container, placed on a flat, horizontal surface

3.4

container

article made from glass to be used as primary packaging material intended to come into direct contact with the pharmaceutical preparations

EXAMPLE Bottles, vials, syringes, ampoules and cartridges. See also [Figure 1](#).

Note 1 to entry: These containers are made from borosilicate or soda-lime-silica glass.

3.5

filling volume

defined volume of water to fill the test specimen

Note 1 to entry: For the determination of the filling volume, see [7.2](#). The filling volume is a test specific quantity that is used to compare container sets from different sources or lots. It has no relation to the nominal product volume.

3.6

borosilicate glass

silicate glass having a very high hydrolytic resistance due to its composition containing significant amounts of boric oxide

Note 1 to entry: Borosilicate glass contains a mass fraction of boric oxide between 5 % and 13 %. This glass type may also contain aluminium oxide and/or alkaline earth oxides.

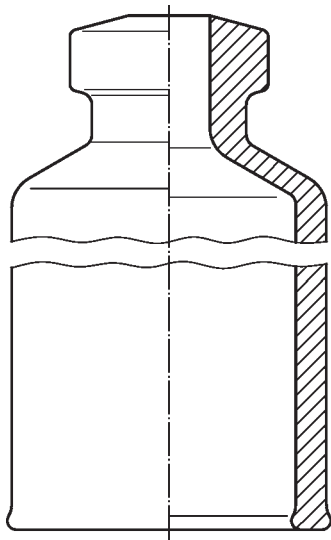
Note 2 to entry: Neutral glass is a borosilicate glass having a very high hydrolytic resistance and a high thermal shock resistance. When tested according to ISO 720, it meets the requirements of class HGA 1. Containers properly made from this glass comply with hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 1 of this part of ISO 4802.

3.7

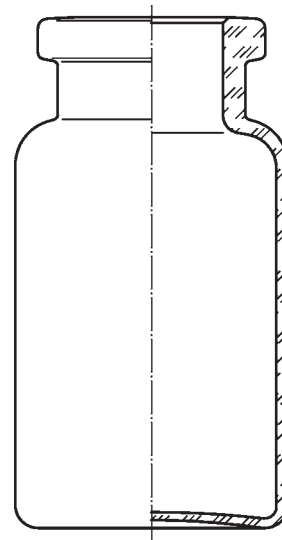
soda-lime-silica glass

silicate glass containing a mass fraction up to approximately 15 % of alkali metal oxides, mainly sodium oxide, and a mass fraction up to about 15 % of alkaline earth oxides, mainly calcium oxide

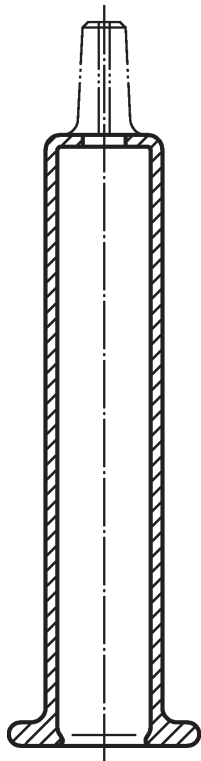
Note 1 to entry: Containers made from this glass will have a moderate hydrolytic resistance due to the chemical composition of the glass, and comply with hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 3.



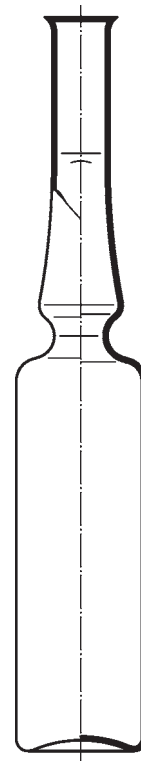
a) Example of a glass cylinder for pen-injectors
(see ISO 13926-1)



b) Example of an injection vial made of glass tubing
(see ISO 8362-1)



c) Example of a glass barrel
(see ISO 11040-4)



d) Example of a stem cut ampoule with constriction
(see ISO 9187-1)

Figure 1 — Examples of containers

3.8 surface treatment

treatment of the internal surface of glass containers with reagents in order to achieve a de-alkalized surface and to produce a significantly lower release of alkali metal ions (and alkali earth metal ions)

Note 1 to entry: Surface treatment is used, for example, in order to change a soda-lime-silica glass container of hydrolytic resistance class HC_F 3 to a container of hydrolytic resistance class HC_F 2 container. Treated containers are rinsed before use.

3.9 vial

small, flat-bottomed container, made from tubing or from moulded glass

Note 1 to entry: Vials are normally thick-walled and have a capacity up to 100 ml. They are normally sealed with a closure made from a material other than glass, and not by flame-sealing.

4 Principle

This method of test is a surface test applied to glass containers as produced and/or as delivered.

The containers to be tested are filled with specified water to a specified capacity. They are loosely capped and then heated under specified conditions. The degree of the hydrolytic attack is measured by flame spectrometric analysis of the extraction solutions.

5 Reagents

During the test, unless otherwise stated, use only reagents of recognised analytical grade.

5.1 Test water, to be prepared as follows:

Prepare the test water from distilled water (5.6) by multiple distillations. Remove the carbon dioxide by boiling for at least 15 min before use in a boiling flask (6.3) of fused silica or borosilicate glass and cool.

NOTE 1 Any other suitable method can be used.

When tested immediately before use, water prepared as described above shall produce an orange-red (not violet-red or yellow) colour corresponding to the neutral point of methyl red indicator of pH $5,5 \pm 0,1$ when 0,05 ml of methyl red indicator solution (5.5) is added to 50 ml of the water to be examined.

This water may also be used as the reference solution (see 8.4).

The conductivity of the water shall not exceed 1 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$, determined at 25 °C by an in-line conductivity meter.

NOTE 2 This description is based on the European Pharmacopoeia 3.2.1[12]. In the European Pharmacopoeia, water prepared as described above is designated water R1.

NOTE 3 Water of Grade 2 according to ISO 3696[2] is suitable for this test.

5.2 Hydrochloric acid, solution, $c(\text{HCl}) \approx 2 \text{ mol/l}$.

5.3 Hydrochloric acid, solution, $c(\text{HCl}) \approx 6 \text{ mol/l}$ ($\approx 1 + 1$).

5.4 Hydrofluoric acid, $c(\text{HF}) \approx 22 \text{ mol/l}$ (i.e. $\approx 400 \text{ g HF/l}$ solution).

CAUTION — Hydrofluoric acid is very toxic and highly corrosive. Consider material safety data sheet!

5.5 Purified water prepared by distillation, by ion exchange, by reverse osmosis or by any other suitable method from water having drinking water quality.

NOTE 1 See national or regional regulation on water intended for human consumption.

NOTE 2 Water that corresponds to Grade 3 according to ISO 3696 is suitable.

NOTE 3 In the European Pharmacopoeia 3.2.1[12], water as described above is designated water R.

5.6 Spectrochemical buffer solution (caesium chloride solution, CsCl).

Dissolve 80 g of caesium chloride in approximately 300 ml of test water (5.1), add 10 ml of hydrochloric acid (5.3) and transfer to a 1 000 ml volumetric flask (6.3). Dilute to the mark with the test water (5.1) and mix.

5.7 Stock solutions.

5.7.1 Dry sodium chloride, potassium chloride and calcium carbonate at (110 ± 5) °C for 2 h. Prepare aqueous stock solutions, using the test water (5.1), directly from the chlorides and from the calcium carbonate, after dissolving in the minimum amount of hydrochloric acid so that all solutions have concentrations of 1 mg/ml, calculated as sodium oxide, potassium oxide and calcium oxide.

5.7.2 Commercially available standard solutions may also be used.

5.8 Standard solutions.

5.8.1 Prepare standard solutions by diluting the stock solutions (5.7) with the test water (5.1) to obtain concentrations suitable for establishing the reference solutions in an appropriate manner, e.g. with concentrations of 20 µg/ml of sodium oxide, potassium oxide and calcium oxide respectively.

5.8.2 Commercially available standard solutions may also be used.

5.9 Reference solutions.

The reference solutions for establishing the calibration graph (set of calibration solutions) shall be prepared by diluting suitable concentrated standard solutions (5.8) with the test water (5.1). They shall cover the optimum working ranges of the specific elements according to the instrument used for the measurement. Typical concentration ranges of the reference solutions are:

- for determination by flame atomic emission spectroscopy (FAES) of sodium oxide and potassium oxide: up to 10 µg/ml;
- for determination by flame atomic absorption spectrometry (FAAS) of sodium oxide and potassium oxide: up to 3 µg/ml;
- for determination by flame atomic absorption spectrometry (FAAS) of calcium oxide: up to 7 µg/ml.

For the measurement of containers of hydrolytic resistance container classes HC_F 1, HC_F 2 or HC_F B (borosilicate or highly resistant glasses), the reference solutions shall be used without addition of the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6).

Nevertheless, when the test is run for arbitration purposes it is recommended that the spectrochemical buffer solution also be added to these container classes.

For the measurement of containers of hydrolytic resistance container classes HC_F 3 or HC_F D (soda-lime-silica glasses), the reference solutions shall contain a volume fraction of 5 % (V/V) of the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6).

6 Apparatus

Ordinary laboratory apparatus, and those specified in [6.1](#) to [6.6](#).

6.1 Autoclave or steam sterilizer, capable of withstanding a pressure of at least 250 kPa (2,5 bar) and of carrying out the heating cycle specified in [8.3](#). It shall be capable of maintaining a temperature of (121 ± 1) °C, equipped with a calibrated thermometer or a calibrated thermocouple recorder, a pressure gauge and a vent-cock.

When necessary and appropriate, the autoclave vessel and ancillary equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned before use using the test water ([5.1](#)) in order to avoid contamination that can influence the test results.

Most recent autoclave models are not provided with a vent cock that can be operated manually. The operator is referred to the user instructions and/or technical description provided by the manufacturer of the autoclave with regard to the functioning of the venting operations. A time/temperature printout can be used as evidence of a proper venting stage.

For autoclaves using a steam generator, it is not necessary to hold the temperature at 100 °C for 10 min.

6.2 Burettes, having a suitable capacity according to the analytical procedure to be used and complying with the requirements specified for class A burettes in ISO 385 and made of glass of hydrolytic resistance grain class HGA 1 as specified in ISO 719 or ISO 720.¹⁾

6.3 One-mark volumetric flasks, having a capacity of 1 000 ml and complying with the requirements specified for class A one-mark volumetric flasks in ISO 1042.

6.4 Water bath, capable of being heated to approximately 80 °C.

6.5 Flame atomic absorption (FAAS) or flame atomic emission (FAES) instrument.

FAAS instruments shall be equipped with line sources for sodium, potassium and calcium; they shall be equipped with air/propane or air/acetylene gas supplies and burners for measuring sodium and potassium, and with a nitrous oxide/acetylene gas supply and burner for measuring calcium.

FAES instruments shall be equipped with air/propane or air/acetylene gas supplies and burners for measuring sodium and potassium.

6.6 Beakers, having a suitable capacity and complying with the requirements specified in ISO 3819.

Before its first use, each beaker shall be pretreated by filling with purified water ([5.5](#)) and autoclaving at 121 °C for at least 1 h (see [8.3](#)).

6.7 Metal foil, e.g. made from aluminium or stainless steel.

7 Sample preparation

7.1 Sample size

For each container capacity to be tested, the number of containers to be measured separately is specified in [Table 1](#).

1) Glass of hydrolytic resistance grain class ISO 719-HGB 1 adequately meets the requirements of class HGA 1 specified in ISO 720.

Table 1 — Number of containers for the determination of the hydrolytic resistance by flame spectrometry methods

Capacity of container [volume corresponding to filling volume (see 7.2)] ml	Number of containers to be measured separately	Additional containers for desired preliminary analysis (8.4.2.1)
≤2	20	2
>2 ≤ 5	15	2
>5 ≤ 30	10	2
>30 ≤ 100	5	1
>100	3	1

7.2 Determination of the filling volume

7.2.1 Flat-bottomed containers ≤20 mm outer flange diameter (except ampoules, syringes and cartridges)

Select six containers (having a capacity ≤100 ml) or three containers (having a capacity >100 ml) at random from the sample lot and remove any debris or dust by shaking the containers. Allow the dry containers to reach room temperature. Weigh each of the empty containers to the nearest 0,01 g for containers having a nominal volume ≤30 ml, and to the nearest 0,1 g for containers having a nominal volume >30 ml. Place the containers on a horizontal surface and fill them nearly to the top with purified water (5.5), avoiding overflow and introduction of air bubbles. Adjust the liquid levels to the brimful line using purified water (5.5). The meniscus shall be equal to the upper edge of the bore.

Weigh the filled container to the nearest 0,01 g for containers having a nominal volume ≤30 ml, and to the nearest 0,1 g for containers having a nominal volume >30 ml. Calculate the mass of water, in grams, contained within the container.

Determine the mean value of the results from six containers and express the result in millilitres of water; this value is the mean brimful capacity of the containers.

Determine 90 % of this mean brimful capacity to one decimal place. This volume is the filling volume for the particular sample lot.

7.2.2 Flat-bottomed containers >20 mm outer flange diameter

Proceed as described in 7.2.1 but cover each container with a strike-plate (for measuring the brimful capacity of small and other bottles). The strike-plate shall be made of rigid, inert, transparent material of any convenient shape, but with a central hole approximately 5 mm in diameter. The strike-plate shall be large enough to fit snugly on and completely cover the sealing surface of the container for which the brimful capacity is to be measured.

Determine 90 % of this mean brimful capacity to one decimal place. This volume is the filling volume for the particular sample lot.

7.2.3 Round-bottomed containers

Select six containers (having a capacity ≤100 ml) or three containers (having a capacity >100 ml) at random from the sample lot and remove any debris or dust by shaking the containers. Allow the dry containers to reach room temperature. Fix each container vertically in an appropriate device and determine the brimful capacity in accordance with 7.2.1.

Then determine 90 % of the mean brimful capacity to one decimal place. This volume is the filling volume for the particular sample lot.

7.2.4 Lipped containers

Wrap adhesive plastic tape around the rim of the containers such that the tape around the lip is level with the rim. Weigh the container, then fill and reweigh as described in 7.2.1.

7.2.5 Ampoules

Place at least six dry ampoules on a flat, horizontal surface and fill them with distilled water (5.5), at room temperature, from a burette (6.2), until the water level (meniscus) reaches point h_6 of ISO 9187-1, where the body of the ampoules declines to the shoulder (see Figure 2). Read the capacities to two decimal places and calculate the mean value.

This volume, expressed to one decimal place, is the filling volume and shall be filled in all ampoules of the same lot.

NOTE The filling volume can also be determined by weighing.

7.2.6 Syringes and cartridges

Select six syringes or cartridges. Close the small opening (mouth of cartridges and needle and/or Luer cone of syringes) using an inert material (e.g. tip cap). Determine the mean brimful volume in accordance with 7.2.1.

Then determine 90 % of the mean brimful capacity to one decimal place. This volume is the filling volume.

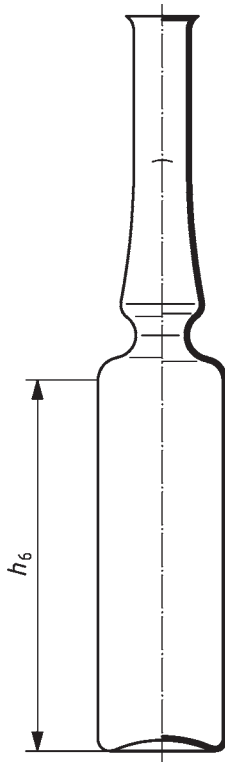


Figure 2 — Filling volume of ampoules (up to h_6)

8 Procedure

8.1 General

This procedure shall be completed within one working day.

8.2 Cleaning of samples

The following cleaning process for each container shall be completed within 20 min to 30 min.

Remove from all open samples any debris or dust which has collected during storage and transport. Shortly before each test, rinse each sample thoroughly at least twice with the purified water (5.5) at ambient temperature, then allow to stand, filled with the purified water (5.5). Immediately before testing, empty the samples, rinse once with the purified water (5.5) and then once with the test water (5.1) and allow to drain.

Closed ampoules shall not be rinsed before testing.

NOTE For opening by flame, closed ampoules can be warmed, e.g. in a water bath or air-oven at about 40 °C for approximately 2 min before opening, to avoid under pressure when opening, or cut and broken at the height of the sealing point.

8.3 Filling and heating

Fill each container, selected for the sample size in accordance with 7.1 and cleaned in accordance with 8.2, to the filling volume with the test water (5.1) by means of suitable volumetric measuring devices.

Cap each container, including ampoules, loosely with an inert material, for example with inverted beakers (6.6) of such a size that the bottoms of the beakers fit snugly down on the rims of the sample. Cap ampoules with a clean metal foil (6.7), e. g. aluminium foil. Place syringes and cartridges in a beaker and cover the beaker with a clean metal foil (6.7).

Ensure that the metal foil (6.7) does not release measurable ions into the test water.

Place the samples, gathered in groups in glass dishes or in the beaker, on the rack in the autoclave (6.1), containing purified water (5.5) at ambient temperature, and ensure that they are held above the level of the water in the vessel.

Insert the end of a calibrated thermal device in a filled container through a hole of approximately the diameter of the thermocouple and connect it to an external measuring device. If the container is too small to insert a thermocouple, apply a thermocouple in a suitable, similar container. Close the autoclave door or lid securely but leave the vent-cock open. Start automatic recording of the temperature versus time and heat the autoclave at a regular rate such that steam issues vigorously from the vent-cock after 20 min to 30 min, and maintain a vigorous evolution of steam for a further 10 min. Close the vent-cock and raise the temperature from 100 °C to 121 °C at a rate of 1 °C/min within 20 min to 22 min. Maintain the temperature at (121 ± 1) °C for (60 ± 1) min from the time when the holding temperature is reached. Cool down to 100 °C at a rate of 0,5 °C/min, venting to prevent formation of a vacuum, within 40 min to 44 min.

NOTE 1 For autoclaves using a steam generator it is not necessary to maintain the temperature for 10 min at 100 °C.

CAUTION — For security reasons (boiling retardation), do not open the autoclave before the water in the containers has reached a temperature of 95 °C. Consider the safety instructions of the user manual!

NOTE 2 Experience has shown that the rate of heating to 121 °C, the holding temperature of (121 ± 1) °C and the rate of cooling to 100 °C are critical. Deviations from the specified conditions can produce variable results even to the extent of invalidating them.

Remove the hot samples from the autoclave and cool to room temperature within 30 min. Start with the determinations after cooling. Special care shall be taken in cooling down large capacity containers as thermal drops larger than 40 °C can cause the fracture of the glass by thermal shock.

8.4 Analysis of the extraction solutions

8.4.1 Containers of hydrolytic resistance container classes HC_F 1, HC_F 2 and HC_F B or those known to be made from borosilicate glass

Normally, these containers do not release potassium or calcium in a significant amount and only sodium is to be determined. Carry out preliminary measurements of the potassium and calcium oxide concentrations on one of the extraction solutions. If, for one container type, the concentration of potassium oxide is less than 0,2 µg/ml, and if the concentration of calcium oxide is less than 0,1 µg/ml, the remaining extraction solutions of this container type need not be analysed for these ions.

Add to one container, from each container type, a volume of the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6) equivalent to 5 % of the filling volume.

NOTE The addition of spectrochemical buffer solution to extracts of containers of the classes HC_F1, HC_F2 and HC_FB is not generally necessary (especially with small containers <2 ml, it might be difficult to homogenize the buffer solution). Depending on the atomic absorption or emission spectrometer, the spectrochemical buffer can improve the reproducibility, but generally might increase blank levels. This depends on the specific test equipment and is subject to process validation.

Aspirate the extraction solution from each sample directly into the flame of the atomic absorption or atomic emission instrument (6.5), and determine the concentrations of sodium oxide (and potassium oxide and calcium oxide, if present) by reference to calibration graphs produced from the aqueous reference solutions (5.9) of suitable concentration.

8.4.2 Containers of hydrolytic resistance container classes HC_F 3 and HC_F D, or those known to be made from soda-lime-silica glass

8.4.2.1 Preliminary analysis

Add to one container, from each container type, a volume of the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6) equivalent to 5 % of the filling volume.

Cap narrow-necked containers with a piece of inert plastic film and mix the liquid well by shaking. Mix the liquids in other containers by using stirrers.

Ensure that the plastic film does not release the ions to be determined.

Aspirate the extraction solution into the flame of the instrument (6.5) and determine first the approximate sodium oxide concentration, then the exact potassium oxide and the calcium oxide concentration. When the potassium oxide concentration is less than 0,2 µg/ml and if the concentration of calcium oxide is less than 0,1 µg/ml, the remaining solutions of this container type need not be analysed for these ions.

According to the instrument conditions, the sodium oxide concentration may be above the optimum working range. For FAAS techniques, this normally takes place for concentrations greater than 3 µg/ml of sodium oxide. In these cases, dilute the extraction solution for the final measurements so that the sodium oxide concentration becomes less than 3 µg/ml.

Take care that dilution to concentrations less than 3 µg/ml of sodium oxide is done carefully. The volumes shall be measured to two decimal places and the measurement and dilution shall be done in very carefully cleaned apparatus.

If dilution is necessary, prepare such a diluted solution from an original extraction solution, and add the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6) [5 % (volume fraction)].

NOTE Experience shows that calcium oxide and potassium oxide can be accurately measured from undiluted solutions.

8.4.2.2 Final analysis

If dilution is unnecessary, add a volume of the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6) equivalent to 5 % of the filling volume as described in 8.4.2.1, mix well and determine sodium oxide and calcium oxide (and potassium oxide, if present) by reference to calibration graphs. They shall be produced from the aqueous reference solutions (5.9) and shall contain a volume fraction of 5 % of the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6).

For the determination of the calcium oxide concentration with the FAAS method, the nitrous oxide/acetylene flame shall be used.

If dilution is necessary, determine sodium oxide, calcium oxide and potassium oxide, if present, following the procedures as described before. The measuring solutions shall contain a volume fraction of 5 % of the spectrochemical buffer solution (5.6).

Ensure that any dilution (because of sodium oxide concentration and/or caesium chloride addition) is taken into consideration in the calculations.

Concentration values $<1,0 \mu\text{g/ml}$ should be expressed to two decimal places, values $\geq 1,0 \mu\text{g/ml}$ to one decimal place.

8.5 Testing to determine whether the containers have been surface-treated

NOTE The hydrolytic resistance of the interior surface of vials and bottles made from soda-lime-silica glass can be considerably increased by treating these surfaces during the course of production. Ampoules made from borosilicate glass tubing are not normally subjected to an internal surface treatment because their high chemical resistance is dependent upon the chemical composition of the glass as a material (see [Clause 3](#)).

If there are doubts whether or not a container has been surface-treated and/or to distinguish between type I and type II glass containers, unused glass containers or the container samples previously tested shall be used.

Fill the samples with a mixture of one volume of hydrofluoric acid (5.4) and nine volumes of hydrochloric acid (5.2) to the brimful point. Allow the filled samples to stand at ambient temperature for 10 min, then empty the solution very carefully. Rinse the samples five times with distilled water (5.5), then at least once again with purified water (5.5). Then test the samples as specified in 8.3, and 8.4.

CAUTION — Hydrofluoric acid is extremely aggressive. Even tiny quantities can cause life-threatening injuries. Consider the material safety data sheet.

If the results are considerably higher than those obtained from the original surfaces (about five to ten times), the samples shall be considered to have been surface-treated.

9 Expression of results

9.1 Determination

Determine the mean value of the concentration of individual oxides (8.4) found in each of the samples tested, in micrograms of the individual oxides per millilitre of the extraction solution, and calculate the sum of the individual oxides, in micrograms of sodium oxide per millilitre of the extraction solution, using the following conversion factors:

1 μg of potassium oxide \triangleq 0,658 μg of sodium oxide

1 μg calcium oxide \triangleq 1,105 μg of sodium oxide

NOTE This hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F obtained by the flame spectrophotometric method is comparable with the class HC_T obtained in accordance with ISO 4802-1, although the individual test values are not equivalent. Therefore, conversions from this part of ISO 4802 to ISO 4802-1 are not permitted.

9.2 Classification

The containers shall be classified as shown in [Table 2](#), according to the mean value of the concentration of the oxides, expressed as sodium oxide (Na₂O), when tested as specified in [8.4](#) and determined according to [9.1](#).

Table 2 — Maximum values in the hydrolytic resistance container surface test (flame spectrometric methods)

Capacity of container [volume corresponding to the filling volume (see 7.2)] ml	Maximum values for the concentration of oxides expressed as micrograms of sodium oxide (Na ₂ O) per millilitre of extraction solution, µg/ml			
	Classes HC _F 1 and HC _F 2	Class HC _F 3	Class HC _F B	Class HC _F D
≤1	5,00	60	12	96
>1 ≤ 2	4,50	53	10,8	84
>2 ≤ 3	4,10	49	9,6	77
>3 ≤ 5	3,20	40	7,8	63
>5 ≤ 10	2,50	30	6,0	51
>10 ≤ 20	2,00	24	4,8	40
>20 ≤ 50	1,50	18	3,6	30
>50 ≤ 100	1,20	14	3,0	23
>100 ≤ 200	1,00	11	2,4	18
>200 ≤ 500	0,75	8,7	1,8	14
>500	0,50	6,6	1,2	10

9.3 Distinction between containers of hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 1 and hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 2

After etching and re-testing in accordance with [8.5](#), containers of hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 1 shall satisfy the requirements for hydrolytic resistance container classes HC_F 1 and HC_F 2 in [Table 2](#).

After etching and re-testing in accordance with [8.5](#), containers of hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 2 shall produce values that are significantly greater than those given in column 2 of [Table 2](#) and which are much closer to those values for hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 3 in [Table 2](#).

9.4 Designation

The hydrolytic resistance of the interior surface of glass containers measured in accordance with this part of ISO 4802 shall be designated as shown in the example below.

EXAMPLE The designation for a 9 ml capacity container with a concentration of oxides calculated as a mean of 4,9 µg of sodium oxide (Na₂O) per millilitre of extraction solution shall be:

Glass, hydrolytic resistance container class ISO 4802-HC_F B

10 Test report

The test report shall include the following information:

- a reference to this part of ISO 4802, i.e. ISO 4802-2;
- an identification of the samples;
- mean brimful capacity of samples (except ampoules);

- d) the filling volume of the samples;
- e) dilution factor, if applied;
- f) the ions determined;
- g) single values and mean value, calculated as sodium oxide;
- h) hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F (designation of the container tested);
- i) for hydrolytic resistance container class HC_F 2, a statement whether the test has been repeated after etching of the surface (see 9.4) and the results obtained;
- j) a statement whether closed ampoules were tested;
- k) any unusual features noted during the determination.

11 Reproducibility

Extensive research was carried out by Technical Committee 2 of the International Commission on Glass in order to identify the uncertainty sources that can affect the reproducibility of the method. It was found that changes to the rinsing procedure and/or to the opening temperature of the autoclave can slightly affect the within-laboratory variance. By far the largest variation occurring between laboratories is the autoclaving cycle and this was shown to be a major factor. Proper calibration of the autoclave and of the temperature control devices are of great help in improving the reproducibility.

To standardize the test procedure, the certified reference material IRMM 435^[13] is available at the Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements at the European Commission Joint Research Centre in Geel, Belgium.

For this material, the alkali concentration of the extraction solution obtained from containers of 18,9 ml brimful capacity as determined by flame AAS was quoted as 1,91 mg ± 0,19 mg of Na₂O/l where the uncertainty is an expanded uncertainty with a coverage factor $k = 2$, corresponding to a level of confidence of 95 %. Further intercomparison work is requested to investigate the method of reproducibility at different concentration levels when different types of glass containers are tested.

For more details see References ^[14] and ^[15].

Bibliography

- [1] ISO 3585, *Borosilicate glass 3.3 — Properties*
- [2] ISO 3696, *Water for analytical laboratory use — Specification and test methods*
- [3] ISO 8362-1, *Injection containers and accessories — Part 1: Injection vials made of glass tubing*
- [4] ISO 8362-4, *Injection containers and accessories — Part 4: Injection vials made of moulded glass*
- [5] ISO 8536-1, *Infusion equipment for medical use — Part 1: Infusion glass bottles*
- [6] ISO 13926-1, *Pen systems — Part 1: Glass cylinders for pen-injectors for medical use*
- [7] ISO 11040-1, *Prefilled syringes — Part 1: Glass cylinders for dental local anaesthetic cartridges*
- [8] ISO 11040-4, *Prefilled syringes — Part 4: Glass barrels for injectables and sterilized subassembled syringes ready for filling*
- [9] ISO 11418-1, *Containers and accessories for pharmaceutical preparations — Part 1: Drop-dispensing glass bottles*
- [10] ISO 11418-4, *Containers and accessories for pharmaceutical preparations — Part 4: Tablet glass bottles*
- [11] ISO 11418-7, *Containers and accessories for pharmaceutical preparations — Part 7: Screw-neck vials made of glass tubing for liquid dosage forms*
- [12] EUROPEAN PHARMACOPOEIA. 3.2.1, Glass containers for pharmaceutical use <http://www.edqm.eu/>
- [13] CERTIFIED REFERENCE MATERIAL I.R.M.M. 435, Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements, Retieseweg 111, B-2440 Geel, Belgium <http://www.irmm.jrc.be/>
- [14] ICG/TC2. Influence of some parameters on the approximation of European Pharmacopoeia and ISO Standard 4802: Reasons for harmonisation. *Glass Technol.* 2000, **41** (8)
- [15] http://www.irmm.jrc.be/html/reference_materials_catalogue/catalogue/attachements/IRMM-435_cert.pdf

