



BSI Standards Publication

Flexible cellular polymeric materials — Determination of antibacterial effectiveness

National foreword

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

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Foreword

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Introduction

Products with a label or marking tag of antibacterial treatment, such as kitchen sponge cleaners, mattresses, pillows and sofas, are available in markets worldwide. However, there is no common standard to evaluate the effectiveness of the antibacterial treatment. The material used for these products is usually a flexible cellular polymeric foam treated with antibacterial agents available in the markets. Because of the porosity of the material, efficient contact between a testing bacterial suspension and the material is critical in an evaluation of the effectiveness of antibacterial treatment. A specific procedure has been developed and adopted for this test method so that the test bacteria can efficiently make contact with the open cell surface of the flexible cellular polymeric test specimens. This document will help consumers to know whether these products have the appropriate quality of antibacterial effectiveness.