
International Standard



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Dental materials — Determination of colour stability of dental polymeric materials

Produits dentaires — Détermination de la stabilité de couleur des produits dentaires à base de polymères

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Foreword

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Dental materials — Determination of colour stability of dental polymeric materials

0 Introduction

Colour stability is an important characteristic of dental polymeric materials and it is expected that the test methods in this International Standard will be referred to in the International Standards specifying those materials.

1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies a method for the determination of the colour stability of dental polymeric materials.

2 References

ISO 4892, *Plastics — Methods of exposure to laboratory light sources*.

CIE Publication 15, *Colorimetry*.

3 Method of test

3.1 Apparatus

3.1.1 Radiation source

Xenon lamp with a colour temperature of 5 000 to 7 000 K and with an illuminance at the specimen of 150 000 lux. Any deviation of the illuminance from the mean value at any given moment shall not exceed $\pm 10\%$ over the entire area occupied by the test specimen (see ISO 4892).

Other radiation sources of equivalent performance to the xenon are also suitable.

NOTE — The xenon lamp and the filters (3.1.2) should normally be replaced after 1 500 h use because of the change of radiation intensity due to ageing. The illuminance output should be calibrated with a suitable light measuring instrument such as the Hanau instrument.

3.1.2 Filters

3.1.2.1 Ultraviolet filter: Borosilicate glass filter with transmittance of less than 1 % below 300 nm and greater than 90 % above 370 nm.

3.1.2.2 Heat filter, such that the temperature recorded with the filter in position will not exceed 55 °C when measured by a black panel thermometer (see the note), or a mercury thermometer with a blackened bulb, mounted in the position normally occupied by the test specimen.

NOTE — The black panel thermometer consists of a $0,9 \pm 0,1$ mm thick steel panel the size of one specimen and finished with a black glossy enamel having good resistance to light. A means for measuring the temperature of the panel is provided at the centre; a thermocouple or bimetallic thermometer making intimate contact with the panel is suitable.

3.1.3 Test chamber

The test chamber comprises the following components.

3.1.3.1 Trough of circulating water, maintained at 37 ± 5 °C.

The water level is maintained at 10 ± 5 mm above the specimens and the specimens are held parallel to the bottom of the chamber.

3.1.3.2 Specimen holder.

A suitable holder for discs up to 50 mm diameter is shown in the figure.

3.2 Procedure

3.2.1 Radiation test

Either clamp the specimen discs with half of each one in the holder as shown in the figure or cover one half of each specimen with tin or aluminium foil. For specimen teeth, cover half of the vestibular surface with tin or aluminium foil parallel to the long axis of the tooth.

With the filters (3.1.2) in position, expose the test specimens in the water bath to the radiation of the xenon lamp (3.1.1) for 24 h. Take care to avoid casting shadows on the specimens.

3.2.2 Colour comparison

Store an unradiated specimen under de-ionized water for 24 h before comparing with the exposed specimens.