

Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) at an Increased Challenge Level Final Report

Test Article: 23-00095-01
Purchase Order: PO-0008117
Study Number: 1342824-S01
Study Received Date: 17 Sep 2020
Testing Facility: Nelson Laboratories, LLC
6280 S. Redwood Rd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84123 U.S.A.
Test Procedure(s): Standard Test Protocol (STP) Number: STP0009 Rev 14
Deviation(s): None

Summary: This test procedure was performed to evaluate the BFE of test articles at an increased challenge level. A suspension of *Staphylococcus aureus*, ATCC #6538, was delivered to the test article at a challenge level of greater than 10^6 colony forming units (CFU). The challenge was aerosolized using a nebulizer and delivered to the test article at a fixed air pressure and flow rate of 30 liters per minute (LPM). The aerosol droplets were generated in a glass aerosol chamber and drawn through the test article into all glass impingers (AGIs) for collection. The challenge was delivered for a one minute interval and sampling through the AGIs was conducted for two minutes to clear the aerosol chamber. The mean particle size (MPS) control was performed at a flow rate of 28.3 LPM using a six-stage, viable particle, Andersen sampler for collection.

This test procedure was modified from Nelson Laboratories, LLC (NL), standard BFE procedure in order to employ a more severe challenge than would be experienced in normal use. This method was adapted from ASTM F2101. All test method acceptance criteria were met. Testing was performed in compliance with US FDA good manufacturing practice (GMP) regulations 21 CFR Parts 210, 211 and 820.

Challenge Flow Rate: 30 LPM
Area Tested: Entire Test Article
Side Tested: Larger Orifice
Challenge Level: 1.6×10^6 CFU
MPS: $\sim 3.0 \mu\text{m}$
Test Monitor Results: Acceptable

James Luskin electronically approved
Study Director

James Luskin

23 Oct 2020 15:48 (+00:00)
Study Completion Date and Time

Results:

Test Article Number	Total CFU Recovered	Filtration Efficiency (%)
1	1.5 x 10 ¹	99.99905
2	3.3 x 10 ¹	99.9979
3	1.4 x 10 ¹	99.99911

The filtration efficiency percentages were calculated using the following equation:

$$\% BFE = \frac{C - T}{C} \times 100$$

C = Challenge Level

T = Total CFU recovered downstream of the test article