

test product as approved on at least two mice and at least two guinea pigs.

(3) *Nonliquid products other than freeze-dried product.* The route of administration, test dose, and diluent shall be as approved by the Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, in accordance with §610.9. Dissolve or grind and suspend the product in the approved diluent. Administer the test product as approved on at least two mice and at least two guinea pigs.

(d) *Test requirements.* A safety test is satisfactory if all animals meet all of the following requirements:

- (1) They survive the test period.
- (2) They do not exhibit any response which is not specific for or expected from the product and which may indicate a difference in its quality.
- (3) They weigh no less at the end of the test period than at the time of injection.

(e) *Repeat tests*—(1) *First repeat test.* If a filling fails to meet the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section in the initial test, a repeat test may be conducted on the species which failed the initial test, as prescribed in paragraph (c) of this section. The filling is satisfactory only if each retest animal meets the requirements prescribed in paragraph (d) of this section.

(2) *Second repeat test.* If a filling fails to meet the requirements of the first repeat test, a second repeat test may be conducted on the species which failed the test: *Provided,* That 50 percent of the total number of animals in that species has survived the initial and first repeat tests. The second repeat test shall be conducted as prescribed in paragraph (c) of this section, except that the number of animals shall be twice that used in the first repeat test. The filling is satisfactory only if each second repeat test animal meets the requirements prescribed in paragraph (d) of this section.

(f) [Reserved]

(g) *Exceptions*—(1) The test prescribed in this section need not be performed for Whole Blood, Red Blood Cells, Cryoprecipitated AHF, Platelets, Plasma, or Cellular Therapy Products.

(2) [Reserved]

[41 FR 10891, Mar. 15, 1976, as amended at 49 FR 15187, Apr. 18, 1984; 49 FR 23834, June 8, 1984; 50 FR 4133, Jan. 29, 1985; 51 FR 15607, Apr. 25, 1986; 55 FR 11013, Mar. 26, 1990; 59 FR 49351, Sept. 28, 1994; 63 FR 19403, Apr. 20, 1998; 63 FR 41718, Aug. 5, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 68 FR 10160, Mar. 4, 2003, §610.11 was amended by adding paragraph (g)(2), effective May 5, 2003. For the convenience of the user the added text follows:

§ 610.11 General safety.

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(g) * * *

(2) For products other than those identified in paragraph (g)(1) of this section, a manufacturer may request from the Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, an exemption from the general safety test. The manufacturer must submit information as part of a biologics license application submission or supplement to an approved biologics license application establishing that because of the mode of administration, the method of preparation, or the special nature of the product a test of general safety is unnecessary to assure the safety, purity, and potency of the product or cannot be performed. The request must include alternate procedures, if any, to be performed. The Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, upon finding that the manufacturer's request justifies an exemption, may exempt the product from the general safety test subject to any condition necessary to assure the safety, purity, and potency of the product.

§ 610.11a Inactivated influenza vaccine, general safety test.

For inactivated influenza vaccine, the general safety test shall be conducted in the manner indicated in §610.11 of this chapter except that, with reference to guinea pigs, the test shall be satisfied if the product provides satisfactory results using either the subcutaneous or intraperitoneal injection of 5.0 milliliters of inactivated influenza vaccine into each guinea pig. The requirements for general safety for inactivated influenza vaccine shall not be considered to be satisfied unless each lot of influenza vaccine is assayed for endotoxin in comparison to a reference preparation provided by the Food and Drug Administration, and such lot is found to contain no more

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endotoxin than the reference preparation.

[39 FR 40016, Nov. 13, 1974]

§ 610.12 Sterility.

Except as provided in paragraphs (f) and (g) of this section, the sterility of each lot of each product shall be demonstrated by the performance of the tests prescribed in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section for both bulk and final container material.

(a) *The test.* Bulk material shall be tested separately from final container material and material from each final container shall be tested in individual test vessels as follows:

(1) *Using Fluid Thioglycollate Medium—(i) Bulk and final container material.* The volume of product, as required by paragraph (d) of this section (hereinafter referred to also as the "inoculum"), from samples of both bulk and final container material, shall be inoculated into test vessels of Fluid Thioglycollate Medium. The inoculum and medium shall be mixed thoroughly and incubated at a temperature of 30 to 35 °C for a test period of no less than 14 days and examined visually for evidence of growth on the third, fourth, or fifth day, and on the seventh or eighth day, and on the last day of the test period. Results of each examination shall be recorded. If the inoculum renders the medium turbid so that the absence of growth cannot be determined reliably by visual examination, portions of this turbid medium in amounts of no less than 1.0 milliliter shall be transferred on the third, fourth, or fifth day of incubation, from each of the test vessels and inoculated into additional vessels of the medium. The material in the additional vessels shall be incubated at a temperature of 30 to 35 °C for no less than 14 days. Notwithstanding such transfer of material, examination of the original vessels shall be continued as prescribed above. The additional test vessels shall be examined visually for evidence of growth on the third, fourth, or fifth day of incubation, and on the seventh or eighth day, and on the last day of the incubation period. If growth appears, repeat tests may be performed as prescribed in paragraph (b) of this section and inter-

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preted as specified in paragraph (c) of this section.

(ii) *Final container material containing a mercurial preservative.* In addition to the test prescribed in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section, final container material containing a mercurial preservative shall be tested using Fluid Thioglycollate Medium following the procedures prescribed in such subparagraph, except that the incubation shall be at a temperature of 20 to 25 °C.

(2) *Using Soybean-Casein Digest Medium.* Except for products containing a mercurial preservative, a test shall be made on final container material, following the procedures prescribed in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section, except that the medium shall be Soybean-Casein Digest Medium and the incubation shall be at a temperature of 20 to 25 °C.

(b) *Repeat tests.* If growth appears in any of the test media during testing of either bulk or final container material, the test may be repeated to rule out faulty test procedures as follows:

(1) *Repeat bulk test.* Only one repeat bulk test may be conducted. The volume of inoculum to be used for the repeat bulk test shall be as prescribed in paragraph (d)(1) of this section. The repeat test shall be performed using the procedure prescribed in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section.

(2) *First repeat final container test.* The number of test samples and the volumes of product used for the first repeat test shall be as prescribed in paragraph (d)(2) of this section. For products that do not contain a mercurial preservative, the repeat test shall be performed, using both Fluid Thioglycollate Medium and Soybean-Casein Digest Medium, following the procedures prescribed in paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(2), respectively, of this section. If the product contains a mercurial preservative, the repeat test shall be performed using Fluid Thioglycollate Medium and the procedures prescribed in paragraphs (a)(1) (i) and (ii) of this section.

(3) *Second repeat final container test.* If growth appears in any of the first repeat final container tests, all tests of the first repeat final container test shall be repeated, provided there was no evidence of growth in any test of