

25% of the overall dimension of the dressing in that direction.

The corners of the dressing may be trimmed; such trimming is ignored when defining the shape and dimensions of the dressing.

Tape Complies with the requirements stated under Permeable Plastic Surgical Adhesive Tape.

Absorbent pad

Content of antiseptic If present, complies with the appropriate requirement, Appendix XX P.

Dimensions Not less than 33% of the overall dimensions of the dressing.

Weight per unit area Not less than 34 g m^{-2} , Appendix XX D1, Method II.

Labelling The label on the unit container, the label on the shelf container and the label on the outer transit container state where appropriate that the pad has been dyed.

Polyurethane Foam Dressing

Polyurethane Foam Dressing is an absorbent foam dressing of low adherence.

The dressing is supplied sterile in sheets of appropriate size.

Characteristics A light, pale yellow foam, heat treated to a smooth hydrophilic layer on one side with a hydrophobic foam on the reverse.

Identification The *infra-red reflectance spectrum*, Appendix II A, is concordant with the *reference spectrum* of polyurethane (form A).

Absorbency Weigh a sample of dimensions $5 \text{ cm} \times 5 \text{ cm}$ and immerse in *water* for 1 hour; a weight may be attached below the sample to ensure that it remains wholly immersed during this period. Remove the sample, allow to drain freely without compression at an angle of 45° for 5 minutes and reweigh. The increase in weight is not less than 7.5 times the initial weight.

Acidity or alkalinity To 15 g add 150 ml of *water*, macerate for 2 hours in a closed vessel, decant the liquid, carefully squeezing out the residual liquid with a glass rod, mix and filter. To 25 ml of the filtered extract add 0.1 ml of *dilute phenolphthalein solution*; to another 25 ml add 0.05 ml of *methyl orange solution*. Neither solution shows a pink colour.

Water-vapour permeability Not less than 1500 g m^{-2} per 24 hours, Appendix XX J2.

Weight per unit area 315 to 395 g m^{-2} , Appendix XX D1, Method II.

Extractable tin Not more than 6 ppm of Sn when determined by the following method. To 5 g, previously cut into pieces not more than 50 mg in weight, add 50 ml of a 0.9% w/v solution of *sodium chloride* and shake for 4 hours. Filter and determine by *atomic absorption spectrophotometry*, Appendix II D, measuring at 224.6 nm and using a nitrous oxide—acetylene flame.

Water-soluble substances Not more than 1.0%, Appendix XX M.

Sterility Complies with the *test for sterility*, Appendix XVI A.

Polyurethane Foam Primary Dressing

Polyurethane Foam Primary Dressing is a modified polyurethane foam.

The dressing is supplied sterile in thin sheets of appropriate size and shape.

Characteristics A light, off-white to pale yellow flat sheet of closed-cell modified polyurethane foam, hydrophilic on one side and hydrophobic on the reverse. The hydrophilic face is covered with a silicone release paper.

Identification The *infra-red reflectance spectrum*, Appendix II A, is concordant with the *reference spectrum* of polyurethane (form B).

Absorbency Remove the release paper, weigh a sample of dimensions $5 \text{ cm} \times 5 \text{ cm}$ and immerse in *water* for 1 hour; a weight may be attached below the sample to ensure that it remains wholly immersed during this period. Remove the sample, allow to drain freely without compression at an angle of 45° for 60 seconds and reweigh. The increase in weight is 1.5 to 2.5 times the initial weight.

Density 370 to 460 kg m^{-3} when determined by Method 2 of British Standard 4443:Part 1:1979 (Methods of test for flexible cellular materials) with the following modification. Use three pieces about $150 \text{ mm} \times 65 \text{ mm}$ in size.

Thickness Not more than 1.00 mm when determined by Method 1a of British Standard 4443:Part 1:1979 (Methods of test for flexible cellular materials).

Water-vapour permeability 1000 to 3200 g m^{-2} per 24 hours, Appendix XX J2, with the following modifications. Place a circular disc of diameter 80 mm of the material being examined on to the centre of the top surface of the chamber and place above it a flat silicone rubber gasket of thickness 2.4 to 2.6 mm with a central circular opening of diameter 40 mm.

Weight per unit area 200 to 500 g m^{-2} , Appendix XX D1, Method II.

Heavy metals 2.0 g complies with *limit test C for heavy metals*, Appendix VII. Use 2.0 ml of *lead standard solution* (10 ppm Pb) to prepare the standard.

Water-soluble substances Not more than 1.0%, Appendix XX M.

Sterility Complies with the *test for sterility*, Appendix XVI A.

Semipermeable Adhesive Dressing

Semipermeable Adhesive Film

Semipermeable Adhesive Dressing is a sterile, extensible, waterproof, water vapour-permeable polyurethane film of low reflectance, evenly coated with a synthetic adhesive mass. It is transparent. The adhesive surface is covered with a suitable protector and does not offset when the protector is removed. There may be a coloured non-adherent strip or other suitable device on at least one edge to facilitate handling.

The dressing is supplied sterile in single pieces.