seed coat or other impurities. It offers appreciable resistance when pulled and does not shed a significant quantity of dust when shaken gently.

Fibre identification Complies with tests A, B and D for *cotton*, Appendix XX A.

Absorbency The *sinking time* is not more than 10 seconds, Appendix XX L1, Method I, and the *water-holding capacity* is not less than 23.0 g g^{-1}, Appendix XX L2.

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 and mix. Reserve 10 ml for the test for Surface-active substances and filter the remainder. 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.

Colouring matter Slowly extract 10 g in a narrow percolator with *ethanol (96%)* until 50 ml of extract is obtained. The extract is not more intensely coloured than *reference solution* Y_5 or GY_6, Appendix IV B, Method I, or a solution prepared in the following manner. To 3.0 ml of *blue primary solution* add 7.0 ml of a solution of *hydrochloric acid* containing 1% w/v of HCl and dilute 0.5 ml of the resulting solution to 10 ml with the same solution of hydrochloric acid.

Ether-soluble substances Not more than 0.50%, Appendix XX N.

Fluorescence When examined under ultra-violet light (365 nm) a layer about 5 mm in thickness displays only a slight brownish-violet fluorescence and a few yellow particles. Not more than a few isolated fibres show an intense blue fluorescence.

Foreign fibres When examined under a microscope, it is seen to consist almost exclusively of typical cotton fibres. Only occasional isolated foreign fibres may also be present.

Neps When 1 g is spread evenly between two colourless, transparent plates, each 10 cm × 10 cm, and examined for neps by transmitted light, it is not more neppy than the *European Pharmacopœia Standard for neps*.

Surface-active substances Introduce into a 25-ml graduated, ground-glass stoppered cylinder with an external diameter of 18 to 22 mm, previously rinsed with *sulphuric acid* and then with *water*, the portion of the extract reserved in the test for Acidity or alkalinity, shake vigorously 30 times in 10 seconds, allow to stand for 1 minute and repeat the shaking. After 5 minutes the height of froth does not exceed 2 mm above the surface of the liquid.

Water-soluble substances Not more than 0.50%, Appendix XX M. Use 5 g and 500 ml of *water*.

Loss on drying When dried to constant weight at 100° to 105°, loses not more than 8.0% of its weight. Use 5 g.

Sulphated ash Not more than 0.40%, Appendix XX S.

Absorbent Cotton and Viscose Gauze

Absorbent Cotton and Viscose Gauze consists of fabric of plain weave, in which the warp threads are of cotton and the weft threads are of viscose or of combined cotton and viscose yarn, or the warp threads are of combined cotton and viscose yarn and the weft threads are of cotton or of combined cotton and viscose yarn. It is bleached to a good white and purified. It is practically odourless, reasonably free from weaving defects and contains not more than traces of leaf residue, seed coat and other impurities.

Fibre identification Complies with the tests for *cotton* and *viscose*, Appendix XX A.

Content of viscose Not more than 45% when determined by Method 3 of British Standard 4407:1975 (Methods of test. Quantitative analysis of fibre mixtures).

Absorbency *Sinking time* Not more than 10 seconds, Appendix XX L1, Method I.

Acidity or alkalinity To 10 g add 100 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, reserve 10 ml for the test for Surface-active substances and filter the remainder. To 25 ml of the filtered extract add 0.15 ml of *dilute phenolphthalein solution*; to another 25 ml add 0.05 ml of *methyl orange solution*. Neither solution shows a pink colour.

Colouring matter Slowly extract 10 g in a percolator about 30 mm in diameter with *ethanol (96%)* until 50 ml of extract is obtained, pour the liquid into a colourless glass cylinder and examine a 20-cm layer against a white background. A very faint yellowish tinge may be observed, but no bluish or greenish tinge is present.

Threads per 10 cm Type 1: warp, 69 to 77; weft, 53 to 61; Type 2: warp, 69 to 77; weft, 41 to 49; Appendix XX C1, Method I.

Weight per unit area Type 1: not less than 14.0 g m^{-2}; Type 2: not less than 13.0 g m^{-2}; Appendix XX D1, Method III.

Ether-soluble substances Not more than 0.50%, Appendix XX N.

Fluorescence When examined under ultra-violet light (365 nm) a two-ply layer may display only a slight brownish-violet fluorescence and a few yellow particles. Not more than a few isolated fibres show an intense blue fluorescence.

Starch and dextrin To the 200 ml of cooled extract reserved in the test for Water-soluble substances add 5 ml of 5M *acetic acid* and 0.15 ml of 0.05M *iodine*. No blue, violet, reddish or brownish colour is produced.

Surface-active substances Shake vigorously in a clean test-tube the portion of the aqueous extract reserved in the test for Acidity or alkalinity and examine after 10 minutes. Not more than a ring of froth, in contact with the walls of the tube, remains.

Water-soluble substances Not more than 0.50%, Appendix XX M. Reserve 200 ml for the test for Starch and dextrin before filtering the extract.

Loss on drying When dried to constant weight at 100° to 105°, loses not more than 11.0% of its weight. Use 5 g.

Sulphated ash For products containing Viscose, not more than 0.45%; for products containing Matt Viscose, not more than 1.2%, Appendix IX A, Method II. Use 5 g.

Labelling The label on the unit container, the label on the shelf container and the label on the outer transit container state whether the gauze complies with the requirements for Type 1 or for Type 2 Absorbent Cotton and Viscose Gauze.

In the absence of instructions to the contrary in the prescription or order, Absorbent Cotton and Viscose Gauze Type 1 shall be supplied.

Absorbent Cotton and Viscose Ribbon Gauze ☆

Absorbent Cotton and Viscose Ribbon Gauze consists of woven fabric supplied as ribbons of various widths with fast selvedge edges, in which the warp threads are of cotton and the weft threads are of viscose or of combined cotton and viscose yarn. It is purified, bleached to a good white and made absorbent either before or after weaving. It is practically odourless, reasonably free from weaving defects and contains not more than slight traces of leaf residue, pericarp, seed husks or other impurities. It does not contain any fibres other than those of cotton and viscose. It is in one continuous length.

Fibre identification A. Untwist a few threads in the warp and in the weft to free a few of the fibres to be examined. The warp threads comply with tests A and B for *cotton*, Appendix XX A. The weft threads comply with tests A and C for *viscose* and where a mixture of fibres is present some comply with test A for *cotton*, Appendix XX A. The viscose fibres have an average length of 25 to 50 mm and are crimped; the end-cuts are more or less straight. The surface of each viscose fibre may be uneven.

B. Dissolve the residue obtained in the test for Sulphated ash by warming gently with 5 ml of *sulphuric acid*. Allow to cool and add 0.2 ml of *hydrogen peroxide solution (10 vol)*. The solution obtained from the product containing bright viscose shows no change in colour; that from the product containing matt viscose shows an orange-yellow colour, the intensity of which depends on the quantity of titanium dioxide present.

Absorbency *Sinking time* Not more than 10 seconds, Appendix XX L1, Method I.

Acidity or alkalinity To 15.0 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, and mix. Reserve 10 ml for the test for Surface-active substances and filter the remainder. To 25 ml of the filtered extract add 0.15 ml of *dilute phenolphthalein solution*; to another 25 ml add 0.05 ml of *methyl orange solution*. Neither solution shows a pink colour.

Colouring matter Slowly extract 10 g in a narrow percolator with *ethanol (96%)* until 50 ml of extract is obtained. The liquid obtained is not more intensely coloured than *reference solution* Y_5 or GY_6, Appendix IV B, Method II, or a solution prepared in the following manner. To 3.0 ml of *blue primary solution* add 7.0 ml of a solution of *hydrochloric acid* containing 1% w/v of HCl and dilute 0.5 ml of the resulting solution to 10 ml with the same solution of hydrochloric acid.

Minimum breaking load Complies with the appropriate requirement given in Table II, Appendix XX E, Method C.

Threads per 10 cm Complies with the appropriate requirements given in Tables I and II, Appendix XX C1, Method IV.

TABLE I Threads per 10 cm in warp

Type	Width of ribbon gauze			
	1.25 cm	2.5 cm	5 cm	10 cm or more
22a	112 to 128	116 to 124	116 to 124	117 to 123
22b	112 to 128	116 to 124	116 to 124	117 to 123
24a	112 to 128	116 to 124	116 to 124	117 to 123

TABLE II

Type	Threads per 10 cm in weft	Minimum weight per unit area g m^{-2}	Minimum breaking load N cm^{-1}
22a	95 to 105	33.5	12
22b	95 to 105	44.0	12
24a	114 to 126	36.0	12

Weight per unit area Complies with the appropriate requirement given in Table II, Appendix XX D, Method IV.

Ether-soluble substances Not more than 0.50%, Appendix XX N.

Fluorescence When examined under ultra-violet light (365 nm) a two-ply layer displays only a slight brownish-violet fluorescence and a few yellow particles. Not more than a few isolated fibres show an intense blue fluorescence.

Foreign fibres When examined under a microscope, fibres from the warp are seen to consist exclusively of typical cotton fibres and those from the weft exclusively of typical viscose fibres or both cotton and viscose fibres except that occasional isolated foreign fibres may also be present in fibres from the warp and the weft.

Starch and dextrin Allow 200 ml of the extract reserved in the test for Water-soluble substances to cool and add 5 ml of 5M *acetic acid* and 0.15 ml of 0.05M *iodine*. No blue, violet, reddish or brown colour is produced.

Surface-active substances Introduce into a 25-ml graduated ground-glass stoppered cylinder with an external diameter of 18 to 22 mm, previously rinsed with *sulphuric acid* and then with *water*, the 10-ml portion of the extract reserved in the test for Acidity or alkalinity, shake vigorously 30 times in 10 seconds, allow to stand for 1 minute and repeat the shaking. After 5 minutes, the height of the froth does not exceed 2 mm above the surface of the liquid.

Water-soluble substances Not more than 0.50%, Appendix XX M. Reserve 200 ml for the test for Starch and dextrin before filtering the extract.