



## Antimicrobial Activity

### Objective:

The antimicrobial activity of the sample (material) against bacteria, mould fungi or viruses is examined with various test methods.

### This test is particularly suitable for:

- Textiles/items with silver finishing
- Textiles/items with an active antimicrobial finishing (biocide)
- Textiles/items with a finishing for the inhibition of fungal growth
- Textiles/items with a finishing for the inactivation of viruses

### Description:

The proof of activity against bacteria is performed at the Hohenstein Laboratories according to accepted standards like DIN EN ISO 20743 or JIS Z 2801/ISO 22196. These techniques are accredited by the DAkkS. In the test the fabrics/materials/surfaces are optionally compared with a standard or an identical material without antimicrobial finishing. The test is performed with the bacteria strains mentioned in the standard *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* or *Escherichia coli*. On clients request the activity can also be determined against other strains.

Additionally, tests to prove the activity against mould fungi (EN 14119) can be performed. The antiviral activity of materials is determined following standards for bacteria (DIN ISO 20743, ISO 22196) with a non-enveloped surrogate virus (bacteriophage MS2).

Furthermore other tests according to international standards are offered.

### Customer benefit:

- Product optimization during development
- Consumer safety
- Proof of efficacy
- Advertising impact

### Label and Certificates:

On passing the test, the product may be awarded the Certificate "Antimicrobial Activity" and/or the Quality Label "Antibacterial"/"Antimicrobial" (validity: 2 years). The term "Antibacterial" is used for a significant to strong activity against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, the term "Antimicrobial" if at least two of three parameters (antibacterial/antimycotic/antiviral) are achieved.

### Test sample requirements:

#### General:

- On clients request tests are performed with new and unused samples or after a use simulation (reprocessing cycles)

#### Quantity of material:

- At least 10 g of the test sample or a 20x30 cm exemplar

#### Duration of the test:

- Generally two weeks for tests with bacteria or virus and about four weeks with mould fungi; the date will be confirmed once the test sample has been received

**HOHENSTEIN INSTITUTE**  
Schloss Hohenstein ·  
74357 Boennigheim  
GERMANY

#### Contact

William-Küster-Institut for  
Hygiene, Environment & Medicine  
Jutta Secker  
Telefon: +49 7143 271 420  
Fax: +49 7143 271 94420  
E-Mail [j.secker@hohenstein.de](mailto:j.secker@hohenstein.de)

[www.hohenstein.de](http://www.hohenstein.de)