

Sodium Chloride (NaCl) Aerosol Test Final Report

Test Article: A96
Study Number: 1332300-S01
Study Received Date: 18 Aug 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: STP0014 Rev 09
Deviation(s): None

Summary: This procedure was performed to evaluate particulate filter penetration as specified in 42 CFR Part 84 and TEB-APR-STP-0059 for requirements on a N95 respirator. Respirators were conditioned then tested for particle penetration against a polydispersed, sodium chloride (NaCl) particulate aerosol. The challenge aerosol was dried, neutralized, and passed through the test article at a concentration not exceeding 200 mg/m³. The initial airflow resistance and particle penetration for each respirator was determined.

According to 42 CFR Part 84.64, pretesting must be performed by all applicants as part of the application process with NIOSH. Results seen below are part of that pretesting and must be submitted to and accepted by NIOSH for respirator approval.

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.



Trang Truong electronically approved for
Study Director

Curtis Gerow

24 Sep 2020 17:04 (+00:00)
Study Completion Date and Time

Results: The NIOSH N95 filter efficiency as stated in 42 CFR Part 84.181 is a minimum efficiency for each filter of $\geq 95\%$ ($\leq 5\%$ penetration). The test articles submitted by the sponsor conform to the NIOSH N95 criteria for filter efficiency.

Test Article Number	Corrected ^a Airflow Resistance (mm H ₂ O)	Particle Penetration (%)	Filtration Efficiency (%)
1	17.1	0.779	99.221
2	18.1	1.52	98.48
3	17.3	3.16	96.84
4	17.2	0.629	99.371
5	17.3	1.76	98.24
6	17.4	2.04	97.96
7	17.2	3.61	96.39
8	17.3	1.73	98.27
9	17.6	1.69	98.31
10	17.9	0.418	99.582
11	17.7	0.584	99.416
12	19.1	0.490	99.510
13	18.3	0.528	99.472
14	17.5	0.799	99.201
15	17.5	0.383	99.617
16	18.4	0.581	99.419
17	17.8	0.380	99.620
18	18.1	0.298	99.702
19	18.6	0.478	99.522
20	17.5	0.898	99.102

^a The final airflow resistance value for each test article was determined by subtracting out the background resistance from the system.

Test Method Acceptance Criteria: The filter tester must pass the “Tester Set Up” procedure. The airflow resistance and particle penetration of the reference material must be within the limits set by the manufacturer.

Filter Test Procedure: Prior to testing, respirators were taken out of their packaging and placed in an environment of $85 \pm 5\%$ relative humidity (RH) and $38 \pm 2.5^\circ\text{C}$ for 25 ± 1 hours.

The filter tester used in testing was a TSI® CERTITEST® Model 8130 Automated Filter Tester that is capable of efficiency measurements of up to 99.999%. It produces a particle size distribution with a count median diameter of 0.075 ± 0.020 microns (μm) and a geometric standard deviation not exceeding $1.86 \mu\text{m}$. The mass median diameter was approximately $0.26 \mu\text{m}$, which is generally accepted as the most penetrating aerosol size. The reservoir was filled with a 2% NaCl solution and the instrument allowed a minimum warm-up time of 30 minutes. The main regulator pressure was set to 75 ± 5 pounds per square inch (psi). The filter holder regulator pressure was set to approximately 35 psi. The NaCl aerosol generator pressure was set to approximately 30 psi and the make-up airflow rate was set to approximately 70 liters per minute (L/min).

The NaCl concentration of the test aerosol was determined in mg/m^3 by a gravimetric method prior to the load test assessment. An entire respirator was mounted on a test fixture, placed into the filter holder, and the NaCl aerosol passed through the outside surface of the test article at a continuous airflow rate of 85 ± 4 L/min. In accordance with NIOSH policy, three respirators were challenged until 200 ± 5 mg of NaCl had contacted each test article. Based upon the load pattern of NIOSH Type 2, the initial penetration reading of the remaining 17 respirators was recorded.