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FINAL DRAFT
FprEN 455-2

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Will supersede EN 455-2:2015

English Version

Medical gloves for single use - Part 2: Requirements and testing for physical properties

Gants médicaux non réutilisables - Partie 2 : Exigences et essais pour propriétés physiques

Medizinische Handschuhe zum einmaligen Gebrauch - Teil 2: Anforderungen und Prüfung der physikalischen Eigenschaften

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for formal vote. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 205.

If this draft becomes a European Standard, CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

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Recipients of this draft are invited to submit, with their comments, notification of any relevant patent rights of which they are aware and to provide supporting documentation.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

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European foreword

This document (FprEN 455-2:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 205 “Non-active medical devices”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This document is currently submitted to the Formal Vote.

This document will supersede EN 455-2:2015.

Compared to the previous edition EN 455-2:2015, the following main changes have been introduced:

a) normative references have been revised;

b) subclause 4.2 has been updated with regard to recording the measured length ("median” has been removed);

c) Clause 5 has been updated;

d) Clause 6 has been updated;

e) Annex ZA has been updated for harmonization under Medical Device Regulation (EU) 2017/745 (MDR).

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

For the relationship with EU Legislation, see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

EN 455 consists of the following parts under the general title “Medical gloves for single use”:

— *Part 1: Requirements and testing for freedom from holes;*

— *Part 2: Requirements and testing for physical properties;*

— *Part 3: Requirements and testing for biological evaluation;*

— *Part 4: Requirements and testing for shelf life determination.*

The following part is under development:

— *Part 5: Extractable chemical residues.*

A list of all parts in a series can be found on the CEN website.

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and gives test methods for physical properties of single-use medical gloves (i.e. surgical gloves and examination/procedure gloves) in order to ensure that they provide and maintain in use an adequate level of protection from cross contamination for both patient and user.

This document does not specify the size of a lot. Attention is drawn to the difficulties that can be associated with the distribution and control of very large lots. The recommended maximum individual lot size for production is 500 000.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN ISO 15223-1:2021, *Medical devices — Symbols to be used with information to be supplied by the manufacturer — Part 1: General requirements (ISO 15223-1:2021)*

EN ISO 20417:2021, *Medical devices — Information to be supplied by the manufacturer (ISO 20417:2021, Corrected version 2021-12)*

ISO 23529:2016, *Rubber — General procedures for preparing and conditioning test pieces for physical test methods*

ISO 188:2023, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Accelerated ageing and heat resistance tests*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp/

3.1
medical gloves for single use
gloves intended for use in the medical field to protect patient and user from cross-contamination

3.2
surgical gloves
sterile, anatomically shaped medical gloves with the thumb positioned towards the palmar surface of the index finger rather than lying flat, and intended for use in invasive surgery

3.3
examination gloves
procedure gloves
sterile or non-sterile medical gloves, which can be anatomically shaped, intended for conducting medical examinations, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and for handling contaminated medical material

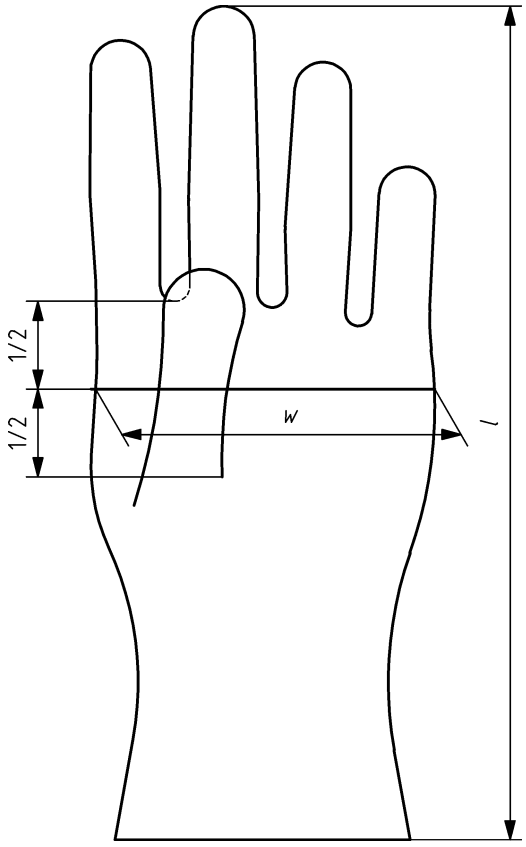
3.4
lot
collection of gloves of the same design, colour, shape, size and formulation, manufactured at essentially the same time, using the same process, raw materials of the same specifications, common equipment and packed in the same type of individual container

[SOURCE: EN 455-4:2009, 3.4]

4 Dimensions

4.1 General

When measured as described in 4.2 and 4.3 taking 13 samples from each lot, the median value obtained for the dimensions shall be as given in Table 1 and Table 2.



Key
w width
l length

Figure 1 — Designation of length and width of gloves

4.2 Length

Measure the length (dimension *l*, as designated in Figure 1) by freely suspending the glove with the middle finger on a vertical graduated rule having a rounded tip so as to fit the shape of the finger tip of the glove. Remove wrinkles and folds without stretching the glove. Record the measured length.

For greater ease of measurement, the ruler can be angled backwards slightly so that the glove is in contact with the ruler.

4.3 Width

Measure the width (dimension *w*, as designated in Figure 1), to the nearest mm, using a ruler, with the glove placed on a flat surface. Do not stretch the glove.

Table 1 — Dimensions of surgical gloves

Size	Median length [a] *l* in mm	Median width [b c] *w* in mm
5	≥ 250	67 ± 4
5,5	≥ 250	72 ± 4
6	≥ 260	77 ± 5
6,5	≥ 260	83 ± 5
7	≥ 270	89 ± 5
7,5	≥ 270	95 ± 5
8	≥ 270	102 ± 6
8,5	≥ 280	108 ± 6
9	≥ 280	114 ± 6
9,5	≥ 280	121 ± 6

[a] Dimension *l* as designated in Figure 1.

[b] Dimension *w* as designated in Figure 1.

[c] The width requirements are for gloves made from natural rubber latex and all other elastomeric materials. These dimensions may not be appropriate for gloves made from other materials.