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**Australian Standard
1615—1983**

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**SINGLE-USE NEEDLES
(STERILE) FOR INSULIN
INJECTION**



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
Incorporated by Royal Charter



This Australian standard was prepared by Committee MD/2, Hypodermic Equipment for Insulin Injection. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 2 November 1982 and published on 10 January 1983.

The following interests were represented on the committee responsible for the preparation of this standard:

- Australian Chamber of Commerce
- Australian Dental Standards Laboratory
- Australian Diabetes Society
- Australian Medical Association
- Commonwealth and State Departments of Health
- Confederation of Australian Industry
- Diabetes Federation of Australia
- Hospitals and Hospital Associations
- New South Wales Government Stores Department
- Pharmacy Guild of Australia

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**SINGLE-USE NEEDLES (STERILE)
FOR INSULIN INJECTION**

AS 1615—1983

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PREFACE

This edition of this standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Hypodermic Equipment for Insulin Injection under the direction of the Medical Materials and Equipment Standards Committee, to supersede AS 1615—1980.

Unlike the 1980 edition, this standard specifies three sizes of needle, i.e. 0.45 mm, 0.40 mm and 0.36 mm in external diameter and not longer than 20 mm in length, to accommodate the range of needle sizes available to diabetics. Provision has been made for the colour coding of the needle hub, and the labelling requirements have also been changed.

It is recognized that the physical strength of the needle tubing is dependent on composition and tubing dimensions as well as performance tests as required in Clause 5.5. For these reasons, it may be possible to reduce the testing specified in Clause 5.5 in a future revision.

Facilities for testing for compliance with this standard are available at the Australian Dental Standards Laboratory, 240 Langridge Street, Abbotsford, Victoria, 3067.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
SINGLE-USE NEEDLES (STERILE) FOR INSULIN INJECTION

1 SCOPE. This standard specifies requirements for sterilized individually packed hypodermic needles intended for use once only solely for the injection of insulin. The needle tubes are 0.45 mm, 0.40 mm and 0.36 mm in nominal external diameter.* The needles have the 6 percent (Luer) fitting.

NOTE: Advisory information on sampling and assessing for compliance with this standard is given in Appendix O.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS. The following documents are referred to in this standard:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| AS 1077 | Single-use 1 mL Syringes (Sterile) for the Injection of 100 Units per Millilitre Insulin (U-100) |
| AS 1094 | Single-use Syringes (Sterile) for General Medical Use |
| AS 1157 | Methods of Testing Materials for Resistance to Fungal Growth Part 7—Resistance of Papers and Paper Products to Surface Fungal Growth |
| AS 1386 | Cleanrooms and Work-stations |
| AS 1444 | Wrought Alloy Steels—AISI-SAE Standard, Hardenability (H) and Stainless Series |
| AS 1600 | Conical Fittings with 6 percent (Luer), Taper for Hypodermic and Other Surgical Equipment† |
| AS 1946 | Single-use Hypodermic Needles (Sterile) for General Medical Use† |
| AS 2134 | Code of Practice for the Chemical Analysis of Materials by Flame Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy |
| AS 2506 | Wrought Alloy Steels—En Series |

and the British Pharmacopoeia, the European Pharmacopoeia and the United States Pharmacopoeia.

3 DESCRIPTION OF NEEDLE. The essential components of the needle are the needle tube and the hub. One end of the needle tube is bonded in the hub; the other end of the needle tube is bevelled and sharpened to form the point. The hub is hollow, forming a socket into which the nozzle of a syringe can be fitted. The nozzle is enclosed by the wall of the needle tube is termed the plunger.

4 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

4.1 Unit—a needle with any sheath attached in accordance with Clause 15.1 and any attached hub cover, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

4.2 Unit pack—a pack containing a single unit.

4.3 Multiple pack—a pack, not being a store pack, containing two or more unit packs.

4.4 Store pack—a pack containing one or more multiple packs.

4.5 Water—purified water of the British Pharmacopoeia.

4.6 Needle sheath—the removable protective cover.

4.7 Bore—the internal diameter of the needle tube.

5 REQUIREMENTS FOR NEEDLE TUBE.

5.1 Composition. The needle tube shall be made of stainless steel which is either—

- (a) one of the austenitic steels specified in Table 2.2.2 of AS 1444; or
- (b) one of the austenitic steels specified in Table 2.1.1 of AS 1444.

5.2 Appearance. When the needle is examined without magnification and with magnification of about 10×—

- (a) the needle tube shall appear straight, cylindrical, and of uniform wall thickness;
- (b) the outside surface of the needle shall appear smooth and clean and shall exhibit no corrosion, pitting, tool marks, sinks, voids, or stress marks;
- (c) the inside surface of the needle tube shall exhibit no corrosion, no extraneous matter other than a film of lubricant, and no obstruction to the flow of liquid; and
- (d) the pointed end of the needle tube shall appear sharp and strong, shall exhibit smooth sharpened surfaces on at least three aspects, and shall exhibit no barbs, hooks, feathered edges or other defects.

5.3 Resistance to Corrosion. When the needle is tested in accordance with Appendix A, the needle tube shall not show signs of corrosion.

5.4 Dimensions.

- (a) The length of the needle (dimension A in Fig. 1) shall be within ± 2 mm of the length stated by the manufacturer, but in any case shall be not longer than 20 mm.
- (b) The nominal external diameter and bore shall be in accordance with Table 1.
- (c) The angle of the point (angle θ in Fig. 2) shall be not greater than 15 degrees and not less than 9 degrees.

*Formerly 26, 27 and 28 SWG.

†In course of revision.