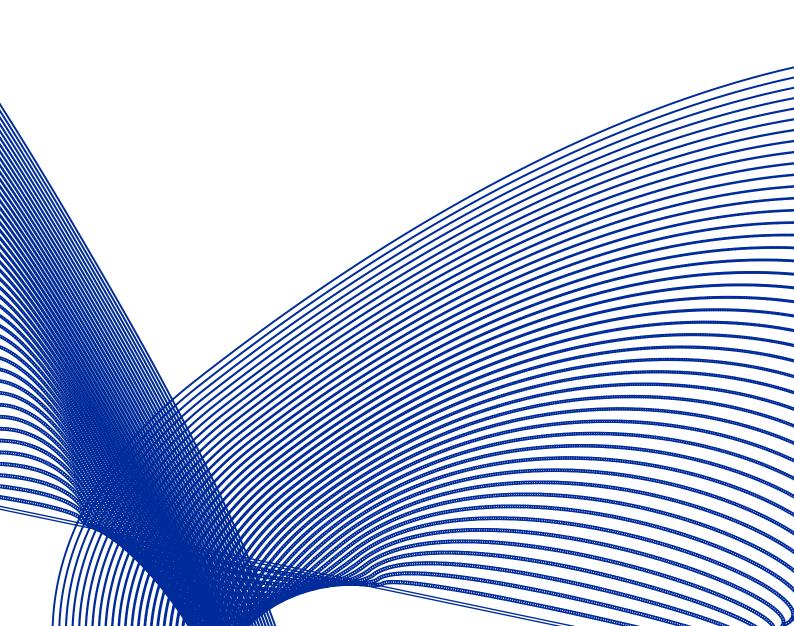
Technical Report



Evaluation of endotoxin retention efficiency of Pall NEO96 IV filters with 0.2 μm Posidyne[®] membrane over a 96-hour period

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1 Summary

The Pall NEO96 filter is an air eliminating filter with a $0.2 \, \mu m$ Posidyne[®] membrane for up to 96 hours use, with any administration set, for removal of inadvertent particulate debris, microbial contaminants and their associated endotoxins and entrained air# which may be found in solutions intended for intravenous or subcutaneous administration.

Intravenous (IV) therapy is an integral and major component of modern-day patient care systems. Inadvertent microbial contamination of IV administration systems from improper handling of the infusion set could however result in microbial contamination and potential shedding of endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide or LPS) if the bacteria are gramnegative.

Endotoxins consist of a fat (lipid A), core oligosaccharide and O-antigen¹. The partially phosphorylated LPS group contributes to a net negative charge. Infusion of liquids contaminated with endotoxins may have serious effects on patients inflammatory and coagulation systems. There have been many reports of gram-negative bacterial contamination of IV infusion fluids leading to septicaemia and the cause of endotoxic shock²⁻⁷.

The purpose of this study was to test the ability of Pall NEO96 filters to retain endotoxin produced from *Escherichia coli (E. coli)*. The endotoxin challenge test was performed at the Pall Scientific and Laboratory Services facilities in Portsmouth, UK. Pall NEO96 accelerated aged to at least 5 years and unaged filters were challenged with endotoxin solution produced from 1 x 10⁸ colony forming units (cfu) *E. coli* in 1 liter of 0.9 % saline. at a flow rate of 10 mL/hour for a period of 96 hours. The effluent collected from each of the filters were analyzed for endotoxin concentration in EU/mL using a Limulus Amoebocyte Lysate (LAL) method using a Kinetic QCL endotoxin assay kit.

All Pall NEO96 filters (aged and unaged) retained > 99.9999 % of the endotoxin challenge produced from the 1 x 10^8 *E. coli* challenge with an effluent concentration of < 0.1 EU/mL (this was the limit of detection of the test) from an average challenge level of > 1 x 10^4 EU/cm².

#CE mark products have additional nano-particle reduction claim.

2 Materials and Method

The endotoxin challenge solution was prepared by reconstituting E. coli BioballTM (Biomerieux, UK) with 1.1 mL of Bioball re-hydration fluid to produce a stock solution of 1 x 10 8 cfu/mL. 1 mL of the reconstituted bacterial stock solution was added to 1 L of sterile 0.9 % saline solution and thoroughly mixed.

The endotoxin challenge solution was infused at 10 mL/hour for over a 96-hour period. Samples were collected in pyrogen free containers from the influent infusion bag and the effluent at 24, 48, 72 and 96 hours. All collected samples were analyzed for endotoxin levels by the Limulus Amoebocyte Lysate (LAL) method using a Kinetic QCL endotoxin assay kit with a limit of detection of 0.1 EU/mL for the test.

3 Results

Table 1 shows the total endotoxin challenge concentration and endotoxin challenge concentration per EFA for 96-hour period, total percent retention and calculated percent retention at 24-hour interval for all the test filters.

Table 1. Endotoxin Challenge Results

Filter	Total Challenge over 96 hours (EU/mL)	Total Challenge over 96 hours (EU/cm²)	Total Retention (%)	Average concentration of endotoxin in effluent at 24 hr interval (EU/mL)			
				24 hr	48 hr	72 hr	96 hr
Aged 1	3.11 × 10 ⁴	1.85 x 10 ⁴	> 99.9999	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100
Aged 2	3.45 x 10 ⁴	1.75 x 10 ⁴	> 99.9999	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100
Aged 3	3.16 x 10 ⁴	1.66 x 10 ⁴	> 99.9999	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100
Unaged 1	2.86 x 10 ⁴	2.45 x 10 ⁴	> 99.9999	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100
Unaged 2	3.25 x 10 ⁴	2.19 x 10 ⁴	> 99.9999	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100
Unaged 3	3.71 × 10 ⁴	2.22 x 10 ⁴	> 99.9999	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100
Average	3.3 × 10 ⁴	1.9 x 10 ⁴	> 99.9999	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100	<0.100

4 Conclusion

All Pall NEO96 filters (aged and unaged) retained > 99.9999 % of the endotoxin challenge produced from the 1 x 108 E. coli challenge with an effluent concentration of < 0.1 EU/mL from an average challenge level of > 1 x 10⁴ EU/cm².

References

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