Annex 1 2022 Comparison Factsheet: Vapourised Hydrogen Peroxide (VHP)



The 2022 revision of Annex 1 now mentions vapourised hydrogen peroxide (VHP) as part of fumigation.

Wording in 2022 Annex 1

10.8 Any process (e.g. Vaporized Hydrogen Peroxide, Ultra Violet) used to decontaminate the external surfaces of sterility samples prior to testing should not negatively impact the sensitivity of the test method or the reliability of the sample.

4.22 Decontamination methods

i. For isolators

The bio-decontamination process of the interior should be automated, validated and controlled within defined cycle parameters and should include a sporicidal agent in a suitable form (e.g. gaseous or vaporized form). Gloves should be appropriately extended with fingers separated to ensure contact with the agent. Methods used (cleaning and sporicidal bio-decontamination) should render the interior surfaces and critical zone of the isolator free from viable microorganisms.

ii. For RABS

The sporicidal disinfection should include the routine application of a sporicidal agent using a method that has been validated and demonstrated to robustly include all areas of the interior surfaces and ensure a suitable environment for aseptic processing.

4.36 Where fumigation or vapour disinfection (e.g. Vapour-phase Hydrogen Peroxide) of cleanrooms and associated surfaces are used, the effectiveness of any fumigation agent and dispersion system should be understood and validated.