

### Standard Quality Control Testing Services offered by MSL

MSL offers Microbiological limits testing to cover the requirements of BS EN ISO 17516:2014 as well as offering additional tests.

### Standard Test Suites offered by MSL for cosmetics include the following:

<b>Microbial Limits Test, Consisting of:</b> Total Aerobic Mesophilic Microorganisms (Bacteria plus yeast and mould) PLUS: The Detection of the 4 Specified Organisms <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> & <i>Candida albicans</i>
Total Aerobic Mesophilic Microorganisms (Bacteria plus yeast and mould)
Detection of Specified Organisms <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> & <i>Candida albicans</i>
Detection of Specified Organisms by European or United States Pharmacopeia method: <i>Candida albicans</i> , <i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> , <i>Clostridium</i> species & <i>Salmonella</i> species
Preservative Neutralisation Validation

MSL can offer a much broader range of tests to meet customer requirements and also offers bespoke testing to suit customer requirements.

### MSL Quality Control Testing Packages

For cosmetic, toiletry and household product manufacturers and packagers we offer contract packages to meet all their testing and hygiene requirements. Testing packages are tailored to meet customer requirements, but usually include the following:

- Routine testing of bulk and finished product according to BS EN ISO 17516:2014 Cosmetics - Microbiology - Microbiological Limits.
- Routine testing of process water samples.
- Routine testing of factory hygiene swabs.

Contract customers can have the additional benefits of:

- Free preservative neutralisation validation
- Bespoke customer specific methods can be routinely used to suit customer requirements
- Sample collection for customers local to our Labs.
- Interim reads and updates as standard.
- Periodic hygiene audits.
- Technical support, advice and consultancy in investigations and troubleshooting of contamination or hygiene issues.

MSL Quality Control Testing Packages are usually reviewed annually.





# Cosmetic Quality Control Testing

Microbial contamination issues can and do pose risks to human health as well as causing significant financial losses to businesses due to reworking, spoilage, destruction and recall of product. Therefore, Microbiological testing is a key aspect of cosmetic product safety and a requirement of the Cosmetic Regulation (EC) No. 1223/2009.

The testing of products after manufacture and filling is a mandatory Regulatory requirement. Testing during production and before packaging follows good manufacturing practice and provides evidence that the product is safe from the risks of microbial contamination. It can also identify areas of risk in the manufacturing process. Testing can also aid the monitoring of trends, to react to negative trends before the product is out of specification and thus help prevent out of specification product being produced, which aids the move to market faster and safer.

MSL specialises in the Microbiological Testing of cosmetics, toiletries and household products. However, we will consider all manner of “weird and wonderful” products to test. Therefore, please do not hesitate to contact us with your enquiry.

MSL offers a range of standard and bespoke testing packages.

## BS EN ISO 17516:2014 Cosmetics - Microbiology - Microbiological Limits

BS EN ISO 17516:2014 Cosmetics - Microbiology - Microbiological Limits is the International Standard that specifies the Microbiological Limits for cosmetics.

This Standard specifies that the microorganisms present in a product should not have an adverse effect on consumer safety or product quality during intended or foreseeable use. Therefore, quantitative and/or qualitative microbiological limits are established for finished cosmetic products.

### Microbiological limits for cosmetics as specified in BS EN ISO 17516:2014:

Types of microorganisms	Products specifically intended for children under three years of age, the eye area or the mucous membranes	Other products
Total Aerobic Mesophilic Microorganisms (Bacteria plus yeast and mould)	$\leq 1 \times 10^2$ CFU per g or ml	$\leq 1 \times 10^3$ CFU per g or ml
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml
<i>Candida albicans</i>	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml	Absence in 1 g or 1 ml