



Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland

An Institiúid Éireannach um Chosaint Raideolaíoch

Protocol for Radioactive Source Wipe Tests

A wipe test is carried out to check the integrity of the sealed source. Ideally a wipe test should be taken of the actual source, however sometimes this is not practical and a wipe of the nearest accessible surface should be taken. The wipe should be taken by trained personnel. The wipe should be placed at the end of a forceps and while wearing disposable gloves the housing should be wiped. The wipe test should then be surveyed with a hand held meter to check for gross contamination. If contamination is found then the Institute should be contacted immediately. Otherwise the preference for packaging the wipe tests is as follows:

- Wipe test should be carried out using alcohol (isopropyl) moistened filter paper or 'medi-swabs' found in pharmacies.
- Dimensions of the wipe need to be approximately 2cm × 2cm, anything larger may impair the efficiency of the measurement.
- The wipe should be placed at the end of a forceps and the rubbed lightly over the area.
- Allow the wipe to evaporate to dryness.
- Place in a zip-lock plastic bag or similar.
- *Please supply the following information with each wipe test.*

Radioactive Wipe Test

Source Details

Company:: _____
Contact: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____

Source Type : _____
Model No.: _____
Manufacturer: _____
Serial Number: _____
Nuclide: _____
Activity: _____
Date: _____

- *Enclose a Purchase Order number with wipe test and forward to:*

Calibration Service,
Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland,
3 Clonskeagh Square,
Clonskeagh Road,
Dublin 14,
Ireland.

Email: calibration@rpii.ie