

Acceptance Sampling and Its Application to Visual Inspection of Injectable Products

John G. Shabushnig, Ph.D. Insight Pharma Consulting, LLC insight!

johnshabushnig@aol.com March 2019

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How Do We Inspect?

- 100% inspection
 - Manual Inspection
 - Automated Inspection
- Acceptance Sampling

Sampling vs. 100% Inspection

- Sampling preferred when:
 - Test is destructive
 - Test cost is high
 - Lot size is very large
- 100% Inspection preferred:
 - To remove low numbers of randomly distributed defects
 - When risk of a defective unit is high

- Acceptance Sampling
 - Inspection of a sample from a lot to decide whether to accept the lot.
- Lot Size (N)

- The total number of items to be considered together for acceptance or rejection.
- Sample Size (n)
 - The number of items selected at random from the lot for testing or inspection.

- Acceptable Quality Limit (AQL)
 - The defect level that will be routinely accepted by the sampling plan. 95% of the time, lots of this quality will be accepted. Defines the producer's risk.
- Unacceptable Quality Limit (UQL) or Lot Total Percent Defective (LTPD)
 - The defect level that will be routinely rejected by the sampling plan. 90% of the time, lots of this quality will be rejected. Defines the customer's (patient's) risk.

- Operating Characteristic (OC) Curve
 - A plot of the probability of accepting a lot (y-axis) versus the lot percent defective (x-axis). This curve is descriptive of the protection provided by a given sampling plan.



Ideal Operating Characteristic Curve



AQL = 1.0% UQL = 1.0%

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Operating Characteristic Curve



- Sampling Plan
 - Defined by the sample size (n) and the accept number (a) for a given lot size (N). Performance is shown by the operating characteristic curve and values for AQL and LTPD.
- Accept (a)/Reject (r) Number
 - When the sample contains defectives <= the accept for the sampling plan, the lot should be accepted. When the sample contains defectives >= to the reject number it should be rejected.

- Single Sampling Plan
 - Sampling inspection in which the decision to accept or reject a lot is based on the inspection of a single sample.
- Double Sampling Plan
 - Sampling inspection in which the inspection of the first sample leads to a decision to accept the lot, reject it or take a second sample. The inspection of the second sample, when required, then leads to a decision to accept or reject the lot.



Single vs. Double Sampling Plan



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Effect of Sample Size (n)



Single N = 50,000 AQL = 1.1%



Effect of Lot Size (N)





Effect of AQL



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Single N = 50,000n = 315

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Standard Sampling Plans

- Mil Std 105e "Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes"
 - Discontinued in 1991
- ANSI/ASQ Z1.4-2003 (R2013) "Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes"
 - ISO 2859-1:1999
 - JIS Z 9015-1:2006
- Dodge-Romig
 - Average Outgoing Quality Limit (AOQL)
- Mil Std 1916
 - Zero accept plans

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Sampling Plans

	2014	2008	2003	1996
ANSI/ASQ Z1.4	65%	53%	70%	90%
ISO 2859	23%	11%	10%	0%
JIS Z9015	7%	15%	5%	0%
Mil Std 1916	3%	11%	0%	0%
Dodge Romig	1%	0%	5%	0%
Other	2%	10%	0%	10%

What AQL value (in %) do you use for acceptance sampling of these defect categories?



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ANSI Z1.4 Sampling Table

lot or back size		Special inspection levels			General inspection levels					
Lot or batch size			S-1	5-2	S-3	S-4	I	11	111	
	2	10	8	A	A	٨	۸	٨	٨	в
	9	to	15	A	` A	۸	٨	٨	В	с
	16	to	25	٨	٨	B	· B	B	С	D
	26	to	50	^	В	' B	С	С	Ð	E
	51	to	90	В	B	С	С	С	E	F
	91	to	150 ·	B	B	С	D	D	F	G
	151	to	280	Ð	С	D	E	E	G	
	281	to	500	B	С	D	E	F	н	1
	501	to	1200	С	C	E	F	G	J	ĸ
	1201	to	3200	с	D	E	G	н	к	
	3201	to	10000	с	Ð	F	G	• 1	L	м
	10001	to	35000	С	U	F	н	ĸ	M	N .
	35001	to .	150000	D	E	G	J	ι	N	Р
••	150001	to	500000	D	3	G	J	M	Р	Q
:	500001	and	over	Ð	E	11	ĸ	N	- Q	R



ANSI Z1.4 Sampling Table





- Random
- Stratified
 - Subgroups
- Periodic
 - Simple procedure
 - Easy to automate

How should a sampling plan be used?

As a Safety Net

- 100% inspection is not 100% effective
- To detect new defect types with automated systems
- To detect a process shift
 - Manufacturing or Inspection process

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What should you do when you exceed the Accept Number?

- Investigate (Always)
 - Inspection Process
 - Manufacturing Process
- Reinspect (Sometimes)
 - When it is appropriate (based on investigation)
- Reject Lot (Sometimes)
 - When reinspection is not successful





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