



FactSheet

CLINICAL TESTING OF INTIMATE HEALTH & HYGIENE PRODUCTS

SERVICE OVERVIEW

- Intimate cleansing
- Menstrual hygiene
- Hair removal
- Sexual health
- Vaginal microbiome
- Incontinence management
- Vaginal atrophy
- Sexual satisfaction
- Quality seal ‚Gynecologically approved‘

INTRODUCTION

Consumers have a diverse range of motivations when it comes to using products in their intimate areas. Very often, the focus is on cleansing of and hair removal in the intimate region. Menstrual hygiene and alleviating vaginal atrophy are topics that specifically concern women. Incontinence products, contraceptives and sexual wellness items contribute to the diversity of products applied in the intimate zone.

In the clinical studies we conduct, we assess the compatibility and effectiveness of these products on healthy subjects, patients and special populations, including postmenopausal women. We recruit both individuals and couples depending on the study.

Our examination spaces are equipped with specialized gynecological facilities such as a gynecologist’s chair and the assessments are carried out by trained professionals including dermatologists and gynecologists.

INVESTIGATIONAL PROCEDURES

The following list includes commonly performed procedures. Specific requirements and objectives may necessitate additional investigations, which we are happy to tailor accordingly. Feel free to inquire about their implementation with your contact person.

- Objective dermatological tolerability assessment of vulvar skin by visually scoring signs of irritation.
- Objective gynecological tolerability assessment of the mucosa by visually scoring erythema, abrasion and vaginal discharge.

- Subjective tolerability evaluation of itching, burning, dryness.
- Vaginal Health Index (VHI): elasticity, secretions, pH, the presence of peptichiae on the epithelial mucosa, and moisture.
- Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI) rating desire, arousal, lubrication, orgasm, satisfaction and pain/discomfort.
- Measurement of vaginal pH.
- Determination of intimate microbiome by 16S rRNA analysis.
- Subjective determination of total severity score (TSS) by rating dryness, itching, burning, pain, dyspareunia, urinary complaints all of which are symptoms of vaginal atrophy.
- Assessment of vaginal maturation index (VMI) through vaginal smear sampling the middle third of the lateral vaginal wall.
- Determination of estrogen (17- β -estradiol) and the level of follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) by sampling blood and subsequent analysis.
- Objective assessment of urine odor from incontinence product with organoleptic assessment by trained odor judges.

INVESTIGATIONAL PRODUCTS

- Cleansers
- Sanitary pads
- Depilatory creams
- Lubricants
- Condoms
- Sex toys
- Intimate suppositories
- Intimate creams
- Tampons
- Menstrual cups

EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE

- 50+ studies conducted
- 1,500+ subjects enrolled in intimate hygiene studies

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