**Table S2. Release of bacteria in absolute numbers (volume-unrestricted setting).**

Legend: All p values result from nonparametric, two-tailed Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney U-test. CFU = colony forming units.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | CFU release  *S. aureus* | CFU release  *S. epidermidis* |
| MWE Dryswab vs. MWE Σ-Swab | p<0.05 | p=0.67 |
| MWE Dryswab vs. Mast Mastaswab | p<0.001 | p<0.001 |
| MWE Dryswab vs. Copan FLOQswabs | p<0.001 | p<0.01 |
| MWE Dryswab vs. Sarstedt neutral swab | p<0.001 | p<0.001 |
| MWE Σ-Swab vs. Mast Mastaswab | p<0.001 | p<0.001 |
| MWE Σ-Swab vs. Copan FLOQswabs | p<0.001 | p<0.001 |
| MWE Σ-Swab vs. Sarstedt neutral swab | p<0.001 | p<0.001 |
| Mast Mastaswab vs. Copan FLOQswabs | p<0.01 | p<0.01 |
| Mast Mastaswab vs. Sarstedt neutral swab | p=0.22 | p=0.60 |
| Copan FLOQswabs vs. Sarstedt neutral swab | p<0.001 | p<0.001 |