The invention relates to biochemistry, in particular to a method for assessing the toxicity of metal oxide nanoparticles using yeasts.

The method, according to the invention, provides sowing *Rhodotorula gracilis* CNMN-Y-30 yeast on a nutrient medium, adding metal oxide nanoparticles at a concentration in the range of 0.5...15.0 mg/l, deep culturing for 72 hours, separating the biomass, determining in the biomass the catalase activity and β -carotene content, at the same time the toxicity level of metal oxide nanoparticles is established proceeding from concentrations that provoke a decrease in catalase activity or β -carotene content by 50%.

Claims: 1