



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health



Schedule: 1 January to 31 December 2018

PHE Food and Water Microbiology External Quality Assessment Schemes



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We aim to meet all the dates in this document you will be advised as soon as possible if any changes have to be made.

Please contact us if you do not receive your samples within seven days of the listed dispatch dates

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STANDARD SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
300	S0637 S0638	08/01/2018	16/02/2018	<i>Campylobacter</i> spp. detection <i>Campylobacter</i> spp. enumeration <i>Escherichia Coli</i> O157 detection <i>Salmonella</i> spp. detection Aerobic colony count <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> enumeration
302	S0641 S0642	19/02/2018	30/03/2018	Presumptive <i>Bacillus cereus</i> enumeration Coagulase-positive staphylococci enumeration <i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L. mono</i>) enumeration <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> enumeration Aerobic colony count Coliform enumeration
304	S0645 S0646	09/04/2018	18/05/2018	<i>Cronobacter</i> spp. detection <i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L. mono</i>) detection <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> detection <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> enumeration Aerobic colony count <i>Escherichia coli</i> enumeration
306	S0649 S0650	04/06/2018	13/07/2018	<i>Campylobacter</i> spp. detection <i>Campylobacter</i> spp. enumeration <i>Escherichia coli</i> O157 detection <i>Salmonella</i> spp. detection Aerobic colony count <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> enumeration
308	S0653 S0654	30/07/2018	07/09/2018	Presumptive <i>Bacillus cereus</i> enumeration Coagulase-positive staphylococci enumeration <i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L. mono</i>) enumeration <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> enumeration Aerobic colony count Coliform enumeration
310	S0657 S0658	01/10/2018	09/11/2018	<i>Listeria</i> spp. (including <i>L. mono</i>) detection <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> detection <i>Salmonella</i> spp. detection <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> enumeration Aerobic colony count <i>Escherichia coli</i> enumeration

Note for this scheme molecular methods can be used for pathogen examination or as a confirmation test

EUROPEAN MICROBIOLOGY LEGISLATION SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Dates results due by	Food category	Examinations and enumerations required
EFL43	EFL127 EFL128 EFL129	08/01/2018	09/02/2018	Meat	According to the Food Safety or Process Hygiene Criteria
EFL44	EFL130 EFL131 EFL132	19/02/2018	23/03/2018	Dairy	
EFL45	EFL133 EFL134 EFL135	04/06/2018	06/07/2018	Ready to eat product	
EFL46	EFL136 EFL137 EFL138	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	Miscellaneous	

NON-PATHOGEN SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required Up to three sets of results can be reported
NP059	NP0173 NP0174	08/01/2018	23/02/2018	<i>Pseudomonas</i> spp. Yeasts Moulds Coliforms <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>
NP060	NP0175 NP0176	09/04/2018	25/05/201	<i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci Lactic acid bacteria Aerobic colony count at 30°C
NP061	NP0177 NP0178	30/07/2018	14/09/2018	All the above enumerations are included for all samples An option to register for PYM (<i>Pseudomonas</i> spp., yeasts and moulds only) is available

SHELLFISH SCHEME
food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
SF059	SF0126 SF0127	19/02/2018	23/03/2018	<i>Escherichia coli</i> MPN <i>Salmonella</i> spp. dection
SF060	SF0128 SF0129	04/06/2018	06/07/2018	
SF061	SF0130 SF0131	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	

PATHOGENIC VIBRIO SCHEME
food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
V052	V0144 V0145	19/02/2018	23/03/2018	Detection: <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> non-O1 and non-O139 strains <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i> Detection and enumeration: <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>
V053	V0146 V0147	04/06/2018	06/07/2018	
V054	V0148 V0149	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	

STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS ENTEROTOXIN SCHEME
food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required
STA037	ST0073 ST0074	08/01/2018	09/02/2018	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> enterotoxin
STA038	ST0075 ST0076	09/04/2018	11/05/2018	
STA039	ST0077 ST0078	30/07/2018	31/08/2018	

ENVIRONMENTAL SWAB SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required
ES10	ES0019 ES0020	19/02/2018	16/03/2018	Relevant pathogen relating to outbreak details as provided on the request form <i>Campylobacter</i> spp. Coagulase-positive staphylococci <i>Escherichia coli</i> O157 <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> <i>Salmonella</i> spp.
ES11	ES0021 ES0022	09/04/2018	04/05/2018	<u>Enumeration of hygiene indicator organisms</u> Aerobic colony count <i>Bacillus cereus</i> <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterobacteriaceae <i>Listeria</i> spp.
ES12	ES0023 ES0024	30/07/2018	24/08/2018	Relevant pathogen relating to outbreak details as provided on the request form <i>Campylobacter</i> spp. Coagulase-positive staphylococci <i>Escherichia coli</i> O157 <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> <i>Salmonella</i> spp.
ES13	ES0025 ES0026	01/10/2018	26/10/2018	<u>Enumeration of hygiene indicator organisms</u> Aerobic colony count <i>Bacillus cereus</i> <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterobacteriaceae <i>Listeria</i> spp.

SHIGA TOXIN-PRODUCING *ESCHERICHIA COLI* SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required
				Samples can only be examined using molecular methods
STX4	STX007 STX008	08/01/2018	02/02/2018	Detection of the major virulence genes associated with <i>Escherichia coli</i> serogroups O157, O111, O26, O103, O145 and O104:H4 (STEC)
STX5	STX009 STX010	04/06/2018	29/06/2018	Includes detection of <i>stx</i> -coding genes and the presence of the intimin-coding gene <i>eae</i>

NOVOVIRUS AND HEPATITIS A VIRUS SCHEME

food and water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required Samples can only be examined using molecular methods
NHV003	NHV0005 NHV0006	19/02/2018	23/03/2018	Detection of Norovirus GI and GII and Hepatitis A Virus
NHV004	NHV0007 NHV0008	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	Optional: Quantification of Norovirus GI and GII and Hepatitis A Virus

LEGIONELLA ISOLATION SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
G110	G110A G110B	29/01/2018	09/03/2018	Detection, enumeration and identification of <i>Legionella</i> spp.
G111	G111A G111B	14/05/2018	22/06/2018	
G112	G112A G112B	02/07/2018	10/08/2018	
G113	G113A G113B	05/11/2018	14/12/2018	

LEGIONELLA MOLECULAR SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required Samples can only be examined using molecular methods
LM3	LM3A LM3B	12/03/2018	20/04/2018	Detection and quantification of <i>Legionella</i> spp.
LM4	LM4A LM4B	03/09/2018	12/10/2018	

RECREATIONAL AND SURFACE WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
S82	S82A S82B	29/01/2018	02/03/2018	<u>swimming pool / hydrotherapy pool waters:</u> Coagulase-positive staphylococci Coliform bacteria <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Total staphylococci Colony count (37°C/24 hours)
S83	S83A S83B	12/03/2018	13/04/2018	<u>marine (bathing beach) waters:</u> <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci <i>Salmonella</i> spp.
S84	S84A S84B	14/05/2018	15/06/2018	<u>river, lake or stream waters:</u> Coliform bacteria <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci Faecal coliforms <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> <i>Salmonella</i> spp.
S85	S85A S85B	02/07/2018	03/08/2018	<u>swimming pool / hydrotherapy pool waters:</u> Coagulase-positive staphylococci Coliform bacteria <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Total staphylococci Colony count (37°C/24 hours)
S86	S86A S86B	03/09/2018	05/10/2018	<u>marine (bathing beach) waters:</u> <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci <i>Salmonella</i> spp.
S87	S87A S87B	05/11/2018	07/12/2018	<u>river, lake or stream waters:</u> Coliform bacteria <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci Faecal coliforms <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> <i>Salmonella</i> spp.

DRINKING WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required Up to three sets of results can be reported
W179	W179A W179B W179C	29/01/2018	02/03/2018	Coliform bacteria <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Colony count (37°C/48 hours) Colony count (22°C/72 hours)
W180	W180A W180B W180C	12/03/2018	13/04/2018	
W181	W181A W181B W181C	14/05/2018	15/06/2018	
W182	W182A W182B W182C	02/07/2018	03/08/2018	
W183	W183A W183B W183C	03/09/2018	05/10/2018	
W184	W184A W184B W184C	05/11/2018	07/12/2018	

BOTTLED AND MINERAL WATER SCHEME

water and food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
BMW18	BMW18A BMW18B	29/01/2018	23/02/2018	Coliform bacteria <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Sporulated sulphite-reducing anaerobes Colony count (37°C/24 hours) Colony count (22°C/72 hours)
BMW19	BMW19A BMW19B	14/05/2018	08/06/2018	
BMW20	BMW20A BMW20B	03/09/2018	28/09/2018	

HOSPITAL WATERS

ENDOSCOPE RINSE WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
EW18	EW18A EW18B	29/01/2018	23/02/2018	Total viable counts (28°C - 32°C for 5 days) <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Selected samples: <i>Mycobacterium</i> spp. (EW20) Yeasts/moulds (EW18)
EW19	EW19A EW19B	14/05/2018	08/06/2018	
EW20	EW20A EW20B	03/09/2018	28/09/2018	

DIALYSIS WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
DW15	DW15A DW15B	12/03/2018	06/04/2018	Total viable counts (17°C - 23°C for 7 days)
DW16	DW16A DW16B	02/07/2018	27/07/2018	
DW17	DW17A DW17B	05/11/2018	30/11/2018	

HOSPITAL TAP WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 2018

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
HTW12	HTW12A HTW12B	12/03/2018	06/04/2018	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>
HTW13	HTW13A HTW13B	02/07/2018	27/07/2018	
HTW14	HTW14A HTW14B	05/11/2018	30/11/2018	

HYDROTHERAPY POOL WATERS – Please select distributions S82 and or S85 from Recreational and Surface Water Scheme (see page 8)