



Public Health
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Schedules and prices: 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

PHE Food and Water Microbiology External Quality Assessment Schemes



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

Public Health England
Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit (FEPTU)
61 Colindale Avenue
London
NW9 5EQ
United Kingdom

Tel: + 44 (0)20 8327 7119

Fax : + 44 (0)20 8200 8264

Email : foodega@phe.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/external-quality-assessment-ega-and-proficiency-testing-pt-for-food-water-and-environmental-microbiology>

STANDARD SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required Up to three sets of results can be reported
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
312	S0661 S0662	07/01/2019	15/02/2019	<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
314	S0665 S0666	18/02/2019	29/03/2019	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

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 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Food category	Examinations and enumerations required
EFL45	EFL133 EFL134 EFL135	04/06/2018	06/07/2018	Ready to eat product	According to the Food Safety or Process Hygiene Criteria
EFL46	EFL136 EFL137 EFL138	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	Miscellaneous	
EFL47	EFL139 EFL140 EFL141	07/01/2019	08/02/2019	Meat	
EFL48	EFL142 EFL143 EFL144	18/02/2019	22/03/2019	Dairy	

NON-PATHOGEN SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required Up to three sets of results can be reported
NP060	NP0175 NP0176	09/04/2018	25/05/2018	<i>Pseudomonas</i> spp. Yeasts Moulds Coliforms
NP061	NP0177 NP0178	30/07/2018	14/09/2018	<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci Lactic acid bacteria Aerobic colony count at 30°C
NP062	NP0179 NP0180	07/01/2019	22/02/2019	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 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
SF060	SF0128 SF0129	04/06/2018	06/07/2018	<i>Escherichia coli</i> MPN <i>Salmonella</i> spp. detection
SF061	SF0130 SF0131	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	
SF062	SF0132 SF0133	18/02/2019	22/03/2019	

PATHOGENIC VIBRIO SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
V053	V0146 V0147	04/06/2018	06/07/2018	Detection: <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> non-O1 and non-O139 strains <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>
V054	V0148 V0149	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	
V055	V0150 V0151	18/02/2019	22/03/2019	Detection and enumeration: <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>

STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS ENTEROTOXIN SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required
STA038	ST0075 ST0076	09/04/2018	11/05/2018	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> enterotoxin
STA039	ST0077 ST0078	30/07/2018	31/08/2018	
STA040	ST0079 ST0080	07/01/2019	08/02/2019	

ENVIRONMENTAL SWAB SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required
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> <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> <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> <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> <i>Listeria</i> spp.
ES14	ES0027 ES0028	18/02/2019	15/03/2019	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.

SHIGA TOXIN-PRODUCING *ESCHERICHIA COLI* SCHEME

food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required
STX5	STX009 STX010	04/06/2018	29/06/2018	Samples can only be examined using molecular methods Detection of the major virulence genes associated with <i>Escherichia coli</i> serogroups O157, O111, O26, O103, O145 and O104:H4 (STEC)
STX6	STX011 STX012	07/01/2019	01/02/2019	Includes detection of <i>stx</i> -coding genes and the presence of the intimin-coding gene <i>eae</i>

NOROVIRUS AND HEPATITIS A VIRUS SCHEME

food and water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations required Samples can only be examined using molecular methods
NHV004	NHV0007 NHV0008	01/10/2018	02/11/2018	Detection of Norovirus GI and GII and Hepatitis A Virus
NHV005	NHV0009 NHV0010	18/02/2019	22/03/2019	Optional: Quantification of Norovirus GI and GII and Hepatitis A Virus

LEGIONELLA ISOLATION SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
G111	G111A G111B	14/05/2018	22/06/2018	Detection, enumeration and identification of <i>Legionella</i> spp.
G112	G112A G112B	02/07/2018	10/08/2018	
G113	G113A G113B	05/11/2018	14/12/2018	
G114	G114A G114B	28/01/2019	08/03/2019	

LEGIONELLA MOLECULAR SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required Samples can only be examined using molecular methods
LM4	LM4A LM4B	03/09/2018	12/10/2018	Detection and quantification of <i>Legionella</i> spp.
LM5	LM5A LM5B	11/03/2019	19/04/2019	

RECREATIONAL AND SURFACE WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
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.
S88	S88A S88B	28/01/2019	01/03/2019	<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)
S89	S89A S89B	11/03/2019	12/04/2019	<u>marine (bathing beach) waters:</u> <i>Escherichia coli</i> Enterococci <i>Salmonella</i> spp.

DRINKING WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required Up to three sets of results can be reported
W181	W181A W181B W181C	14/05/2018	15/06/2018	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)
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	
W185	W185A W185B W185C	28/01/2019	01/03/2019	
W186	W186A W186B W186C	11/03/2019	12/04/2019	

BOTTLED AND MINERAL WATER SCHEME

water and food microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
BMW19	BMW19A BMW19B	14/05/2018	08/06/2018	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)
BMW20	BMW20A BMW20B	03/09/2018	28/09/2018	
BMW21	BMW21A BMW21B	28/01/2019	22/02/2019	

HOSPITAL WATERS

ENDOSCOPE RINSE WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
EW19	EW19A EW19B	14/05/2018	08/06/2018	Total viable counts (28°C - 32°C for 5 days) <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> Selected samples: <i>Mycobacterium</i> spp. (EW20) Yeasts/moulds (EW21)
EW20	EW20A EW20B	03/09/2018	28/09/2018	
EW21	EW21A EW21B	28/01/2019	22/02/2019	

DIALYSIS WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
DW16	DW16A DW16B	02/07/2018	27/07/2018	Total viable counts (17°C - 23°C for 7 days)
DW17	DW17A DW17B	05/11/2018	30/11/2018	
DW18	DW18A DW18B	11/03/2019	05/04/2019	

HOSPITAL TAP WATER SCHEME

water microbiology examinations

Sample schedule for 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

Distribution number	Sample numbers	Dispatch date	Date results due by	Examinations and enumerations required
HTW13	HTW13A HTW13B	02/07/2018	27/07/2018	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>
HTW14	HTW14A HTW14B	05/11/2018	30/11/2018	
HTW15	HTW15A HTW15B	11/03/2019	05/04/2019	

HYDROTHERAPY POOL WATERS – Please select distributions S85 and or S88 from Recreational and Surface Water Scheme (see page 8)

PRICE LIST: 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019
PHE External Quality Assessment - Proficiency Testing for Microbiology

	Number of distributions in full scheme	Number of samples in each distribution	Price for full scheme £	Price per distribution (if not registering for the full scheme) £
Food microbiology schemes				
Standard	six	two	1,425	259
European Food Microbiology Legislation	four	three	913	261
Shellfish	three	two	652	261
Non Pathogen	three	two	510	204
Non-Pathogen PYM option	three	two	165	66
Pathogenic <i>Vibrio</i>	three	two	718	287
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> Enterotoxin	three	two	525	210
Environmental Swab	four	two	469	134
Shiga toxin-producing <i>Escherichia coli</i>	two	two	324	162
Norovirus and Hepatitis A Virus	two	two	800	400
Water microbiology schemes				
<i>Legionella</i> Isolation	four	two	567	162
<i>Legionella</i> Molecular	two	two	324	162
Recreational and Surface Water	six	two	1,045	190
Drinking Water	six	three	1,425	259
Bottled and Mineral Water	three	two	473	189
Endoscope Rinse Water	three	two	185	74
Dialysis Water	three	two	185	74
Hospital Tap Water	three	two	180	72

Dispatch charges:

An additional charge will be made for dispatch to laboratories outside the United Kingdom. The charge will be kept to a minimum and does not include local airport tax charges which participants must arrange and cover

Additional samples

Additional samples are available with every distribution for £55 per sample

Repeat samples:

Repeat samples are free of charge - available only after a distribution has closed

Discount:

An invoice value of £2,500 (excluding VAT) will be entitled to a 5% discount

The above prices do not include VAT (Value Added Tax)

If your laboratory does not participant in all distributions for a scheme the assessment of laboratory performance over time may be compromised

For more information see our website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/external-quality-assessment-ega-and-proficiency-testing-pt-for-food-water-and-environmental-microbiology>