



CRYPTOSPORIDIUM FAQ's

With requirements being promulgated for Cryptosporidium testing, several questions have surfaced concerning them.

Who will be required to test?

All Public Water Systems serving 10,000 or more and whose water supply is either a surface water or groundwater under the direct influence of surface water.

How many sample analyses will be required?

A minimum of 24 routine samples (field samples) and two (2) matrix spike samples.

What will be the required sample frequency?

The testing will be required to be completed monthly.



What is the analytical testing procedure?

The test method used is EPA Method 1623. For more information visit the USEPA web site at www.epa.gov

When does the rule go into effect?

The anticipated date of LT2 promulgation is the middle of 2005, with the actual monitoring beginning 6 months after the final rule is promulgated.

Can the PWS "Grandfather" result information?

Yes, Grandfathered data may be used in lieu of, or in addition to, results generated during LT2 to determine the PWS bin classification as long as the lab & the PWS follow all LT2 sampling and analytical QC protocols.

Will the PWS receive Giardia results, in addition to the Cryptosporidium results?

Yes. Giardia results can be included with your test results package, however only Cryptosporidium data is required.

Are other tests required under the LT2 Rule?

Yes, E. Coli and turbidity along with a Matrix Spike and several QA/QC and ongoing performance evaluation analyses.

What is a Matrix Spike analysis?

A matrix spike entails analysis of a separate sample aliquot spiked with 100 - 500 oocysts to determine the effect of the matrix (PWS's raw water) on the methods oocyst recovery. The matrix spike must be collected as a split sample immediately before or after the associated field sample.

What is the required holding time and sample volume for the analysis?

The holding time for the sample is 96 hours from collection to the initiation of the elution phase. Ten (10) liters of raw water must be collected.

How does the PWS schedule their sampling events?

The PWS is required to sample on a monthly basis and based on a predetermined schedule submitted to the EPA. The schedule allows samples to be collected 2 days prior to and 2 days after the selected date providing a 5 day window. Coordination with the lab will be needed to assure samples can be processed accordingly.

How will the analytical results be delivered?

The EPA has developed a web-based LT2 data collection system to allow laboratories to report data to PWS's electronically and to allow the PWS's to verify the data electronically before submitting the monitoring results to the EPA. MMLI will also offer varying hardcopy data packages.

Do variables exist that could result in the need for additional plates & filters to complete the sample analysis?

Yes, based on several factors it could be necessary for a sample to be divided into sub-samples, requiring additional plates and filters for completion of the analysis. The most common factor is the *turbidity* of the sample. Turbid water causes clogging of the filters, therefore additional filters are required to complete the filtration process in samples with higher turbidity.



What laboratories can perform compliance monitoring?

A lab must be certified or seeking certification from the USEPA. MMLI is in the process of performing the required PE's and sample analyses and should become certified by the middle of 2005.



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