

## Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit

The final date for return of results is indicated on the accompanying request/report form

### Contact details:

The Organisers - FEPTU  
UK Health Security Agency  
61 Colindale Avenue,  
London, NW9 5EQ, UK.  
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8327 7119  
e-mail: foodeqa@ukhsa.gov.uk

Results to be returned via an online survey as  
per email sent to your laboratory

### [Norovirus and Hepatitis A - Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit](#)

#### Norovirus and Hepatitis A Virus Scheme – Instruction Sheet

*This scheme consists of **two** LENTICULE® discs in screw-cap plastic vials (with desiccant). The LENTICULE discs require reconstitution by a process of re-hydration and dispersion prior to examination.*

Refer also to the Safety Data Sheet: [Safety data sheet - LENTICULE](#)

#### Storage:

- Store the samples at **-20 ± 5°C** on receipt.
- Allow the LENTICULE discs to reach ambient temperature (5 - 10 minutes) before rehydrating in diluent.

#### Reconstitution:

- Open the plastic tube and invert it to transfer the LENTICULE disc into a new clean tube.
- Add 975 µL of sterile phosphate buffered saline (PBS) to the LENTICULE disc.
- Leave at ambient temperature for a minimum of 10 minutes to rehydrate. Ensure that the LENTICULE disc has dissolved completely before proceeding, this becomes the sample.
- Disperse the inoculum by inverting approximately 30 times.
- Examine samples between 30 - 45 minutes after reconstitution.

It is not necessary to include a specific virus extraction step – the samples can be subjected directly to RNA extraction. Analyse each sample for all target viruses. If using a quantitative real-time method, quantify each test sample.

#### Examination:

- Examine sample using your routine molecular methods.
- Detection and quantification (if routinely done) of viruses is required for both samples.

#### Return of Results:

- Return your results via an online survey as per email sent to your laboratory.
- Return results to the organisers before the deadline shown on the request/report form.