

SAFETY DATA SHEET

Safety Data Sheet for:

UK Health Security Agency Proficiency Testing (PT) samples for food and water microbiology samples in **LENTICULE® disc** format

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Issued to: All users of UKHSA PT schemes

Access: Document can be downloaded from FEPTU's website



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Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit (FEPTU)

UK Health Security Agency

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SAFETY DATA SHEET FOR UKHSA FOOD AND WATER MICROBIOLOGY LENTICULE PT SAMPLES

1. Identification of the product and the establishment

Product: Simulated food/water samples for microbiological examinations that may contain a mixture of micro-organisms or control micro-organisms in pure culture.

Establishment: Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit (FEPTU)
UK Health Security Agency
61 Colindale Avenue
London NW9 5EQ

Telephone (9.00 – 17.00 hours) +44 (0) 20 8327 7119

Telephone (Out of working hours)+44 (0) 20 8200 4400

2. Composition/information on ingredients

Plastic vials containing bacteria of Hazard Group 2, in tablet format (LENTICULE disc) with a silica gel desiccant Hazard Group 2 as defined by the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens 2023 Approved List of Biological Agents
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/misc208.pdf>.

A Hazard Group 2 organism may cause human disease and may be a hazard to laboratory workers, but is unlikely to spread to the community.

The silica gel self-indicating (orange) inserts are not classified as dangerous material.

3. Hazards identification

Physico-chemical hazard: Not applicable

Health hazard: Minimal risk of infection provided good laboratory practice is observed

Environmental hazard: Not applicable

4. First aid measures

If accidental contact with material occurs laboratory staff must follow local first aid procedures that are normally applied following exposure to an equivalent food/water sample. Following exposure to the material medical advice must be sought.

5. Fire-fighting measures

Not applicable

6. Accidental release measures

Wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment, pick up the dropped tablet (LENTICULE disc) with absorbent material moistened with a suitable disinfectant. Wipe area with a similarly moistened pad of absorbent material and subsequently sterilise all paper and the tablet (LENTICULE disc).

7. Handling and storage

Store at $-20\pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$. Samples must be processed in a laboratory environment which, as defined by national regulations or guidelines, is suitable for the handling of micro-organisms of ACDP Hazard Group 2. Staff handling the material should have been trained in the handling of infectious biological material. The material should be treated with the same degree of care as would be exercised with equivalent food and water samples submitted to the laboratory for testing. Hand-to-mouth contact should be avoided while working with the samples and normal hand-washing procedures relating to the handling of routine samples must be observed also with PT samples.

8. Exposure controls/Personal protection

Use good laboratory practice and wear appropriate laboratory coat, gloves and eye protection.

9. Physical and chemical properties

Inert odourless dry material.

10. Stability and reactivity

Long term storage will not increase the risks of infection associated with handling the material.

11. Toxicological information

Not applicable

12. Ecological information

Not applicable

13. Disposal considerations

The used material must be disposed of using an autoclave as for food/water samples containing infectious micro-organisms and in accordance with all local and national regulations.

14. **Transport information**

Refer to national and international regulations for transport of bacteria in Hazard Group 2 (Biological substance, category B; UN3373).

15. **Regulatory information**

EC Biological agent, Hazard Category/Risk Group 2

Note that this safety data sheet does not constitute the user's own assessments of workplace risk as required by Health and Safety legislation.

16. **Other information**

In the event of an accident involving exposure of staff to the material contained in the samples, contact the Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit (+44 (0) 20 8327 7119) during normal UK working hours. The Colindale Duty Officer (+44 (0) 20 8200 4400) should be contacted out of hours.

For further safety information concerning this product, participants are advised to read the instruction sheets available from the website: <https://www.feptu.org.uk>.