



Staphylococcus

Environmental water

Test Description

Water from pools, spas, and whirlpools is tested to determine the presence of Staphylococcus species. Addition of sodium thiosulfate to the specimen neutralizes any residual chlorine to reduce the potential bactericidal activity during specimen transport. Samples are filtered and plated on mannitol salt agar. Most pathogenic staphylococci ferment the mannitol sugar and form a yellow colony. Testing is generally completed within 48 hours but may occasionally take longer.

Acceptable Specimens: collection guide and transport conditions

- Pool, Spa, whirlpool water
 - Temperature: Refrigerated (2-8 °C)
 - Maximum Submission Delay: Specimen must be received as soon as possible after collection
 - Container: Sterile 125-ml Nalgene bottle with wide-mouth and screw-capped lid containing 3 drops of sterile 0.1 N sodium thiosulfate

Laboratory Unit

Bacteriology

Methodology

Culture

Test Request

Coming Soon



ALLEGHENY COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

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Pittsburgh, PA 15224
412.578.8070

Possible Results:

- Absent
- Present

Reference Range

Absent

Rejection Criteria

- Unreadable/missing/insufficient labeling
- Wrong specimen collection kit
- Expired specimen collection kit
- Storage/transportation requirements not met
- Leaking or contaminated specimen transport container
- Quantity not sufficient
- Specimen too old
 - Collected it in acceptable kit but did not submit within appropriate time window
- Improperly collected specimen
- Specimen not inoculated/ no specimen submitted

Result Reported

48 hours

LOINC Code(s)

90076-1