

Water Quality Testing Laboratory ...

Bacteriological Analysis (BCT)

Basic potability or Complete potability tests will establish bacteriological and chemical characteristic of water from a source. Usually the chemical characteristics of a source does not change so much. Hence, there is no need to repeat the chemical characteristics at short intervals. This test is same as the bacteriological component of the basic potability test. This test is recommended to enable you to monitor bacteriological contamination of water at frequent intervals for a source for which basic potability test has been done at least once. The test helps monitor contamination due to seasonal changes. And also to assess the quality of treatment.

A. Sample Required: 100 ml of sample water is collected in 125 ml (B125) water sample collection bottle or equivalent, delivered at laboratory preferably within 6 hrs, but not later than 24 hrs from time of collection. Keep away from sunlight. Avoid exposure to excessive heat. Keep in refrigerator, if delayed delivery is anticipated.

B. Test Duration: If sample is found satisfactory, then report will be available after 48 hours. If sample is found to have bacteria then further test will be made to look for indication of fecal contamination. This test will take another 48 hours. So report will be available after 96 hours.

C. Report Details:

1. Most probably number of organisms (MPN) present per 100 ml of water. This is an indicator of bacterial contamination.
2. Confirmatory test for E.Coli which indicates fecal contamination. This test will be done only if the MPN value is found unsatisfactory.
3. Interpretation, based on test results and sample collection record.

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