



# SAFETY DATA SHEET

**Safety Data Sheet for:**  
**Health Protection Agency Water EQA Samples for Legionella Isolation**  
**LENTICULE discs**

**Effective date:** 1 April 2009

**Review date:** 31 March 2010

**Issued to:** All Legionella EQA Scheme participants

## SAFETY DATA SHEET FOR WATER EXTERNAL

### QUALITY ASSESSMENT SAMPLES FOR *LEGIONELLA PNEUMOPHILA*

#### 1. Identification of the product and the establishment

Product: Simulated environmental water samples for microbiological examinations

Establishment: Health Protection Agency  
Centre for Infections  
Food & Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit  
61 Colindale Avenue  
London NW9 5EQ

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

Telephone (Out of working hours) +44 (0) 870 084 2000

#### 2. Composition/information on ingredients

Plastic vials containing a mixture of bacteria of Hazard Group 2, including *Legionella pneumophila*, in tablet format (LENTICULE disc) with a silica gel desiccant Hazard Group 2 as defined by the Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens 2004 Approved List of Biological Agents <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/misc208>). 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 water sample.

#### 5. Fire fighting measures

Not applicable

#### 6. Accidental release measures

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±5 °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 water samples. 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 EQA samples.

**8. Exposure controls/Personal protection**

Use good laboratory practice and wear appropriate laboratory coats and gloves. Reconstitution procedures should be handled in a microbiology safety cabinet conforming to EN12469:2000 *Biotechnology – Performance criteria for microbiological safety cabinets*.

**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 laboratory waste 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) 870 084 2000) should be contacted out of hours).

For further safety information concerning this product, participants are advised to read the instruction sheet accompanying the samples.