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Water quality~~—~~ — Enumeration of intestinal enterococci~~—~~ —

Part 3:
Most probable number method

Qualité de l'eau — Dénombrement des entérocoques intestinaux~~—~~ —

Partie 3: Méthode du nombre le plus probable

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Microbiological methods*.

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Introduction

The presence and extent of faecal pollution is an important factor in assessing the quality of a body of water and the risk to human health from enteric infection.

Examination of water samples for the presence of intestinal enterococci (genus *Enterococcus*), normally present in the digestive tract and faeces of humans and ~~homeothermic~~homoeothermic (warm-blooded) animals, provides an indication of such contamination.

Their presence can be used to measure the effectiveness of treatment processes during the production of drinking water together with being indicative of ingress and other integrity issues within storage and distribution systems for public supplies.

It is important to note that this document is based upon use of a validated product whose performance characteristics have been established (see Annex C~~Annex C)~~) and that the examination relies upon the detection of intestinal enterococci based upon the expression of the enzyme ß-D-glucosidase without further confirmation (see Annex A~~Annex A).~~).