

Public Swimming Pools and Spa Pools Incident Response-Failure to Meet Microbiological parameters

If, during verification monitoring, there is a failure to meet microbiological parameters (for example, exceedances of the *Escherichia coli* or *Pseudomonas* guideline values) remediation of the affected pool should be undertaken.

Recommended remedial steps (other than for spas)

1. Immediately close the affected pool and any other connected pool within the public swimming pools and spa pools.
2. For facilities without cyanuric acid, ensure the free chlorine concentration, meets the minimum requirements of 1 mg/L if an outdoor pool or 2 mg/L for an indoor pool. For facilities with cyanuric acid ensure the free chlorine concentration meets the minimum requirements of 3 mg/L.
3. If the filtration system incorporates a coagulation step, ensure coagulant concentration is correct to enhance the filtration process.
4. Backwash filter media or replace the filter element as appropriate. Precoat filter media should be replaced.
5. Ensure the water is balanced.
6. Hygienically clean, disinfect or dispose of materials, tools, equipment or surfaces that have come into contact with contaminated water.
7. Record the incident and remedial action taken.
8. Reopen the pool.

Recommended remedial steps for spas

1. Empty all water from the spa (including balance tanks).
2. Scrub and rinse all surfaces with tap water.
3. Spray all surfaces with a chlorine solution of one part bleach to 10 parts water. Note that the dilution factor is based on a bleach product containing 10–12.5% sodium hypochlorite. Apply liberally and leave to soak for 10 minutes.
4. Rinse with tap water known to have an acceptable water quality.
5. Refill the spa.
6. Ensure the chlorine concentration meets the minimum requirement of 3.0 mg/L for chlorine disinfected spas and that the bromine concentration meets the minimum requirement of 4.5 mg/L for bromine disinfected spas.
7. Backwash filter media or replace the filter element as appropriate. Precoat filter media should be replaced.
8. Ensure the water is balanced and the concentration of disinfectant is acceptable.
9. Hygienically clean, disinfect or dispose of materials, tools, equipment, or surfaces that have come into contact with contaminated water.

10. Record the incident and remedial action taken.

11. Reopen the spa.