



Bacteriological testing of water

Adapted, with permission from: Cairncross & Feachem (1993) Environmental Health Engineering in the Tropics: an Introductory Text 2nd edition. London: John Wiley & Sons.

Indicator bacteria

Indicator bacteria are used to assess the presence of fecal contamination in water. They are organisms that are found in the feces of warm-blooded animals and are not normally found in water. The presence of these bacteria in water indicates that the water has been contaminated by feces and may contain other harmful pathogens.

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Chlorinated supplies

Chlorinated supplies are water supplies that have been treated with chlorine to kill bacteria and other pathogens. Chlorination is a common method of water disinfection and is used to ensure that water is safe to drink.

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Untreated supplies

Untreated supplies are water supplies that have not been treated with chlorine or other disinfectants. These supplies are more likely to contain harmful bacteria and other pathogens.

Conclusion

- ▶ The water supply system is a complex system that involves the interaction of various components, including the water source, treatment plant, distribution network, and end-user.
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