

How to Sample Water with Aseptic Technique



Step One: Preparation

1. Always follow CDC guidelines for instrument sterilization before sampling.
2. Read testing instructions for use (IFU) thoroughly.
3. If testing with mail-in test kit, freeze ice pack completely (3 or more hours).
4. Label testing vials and/or submission form corresponding to the sample location, device, time, and date.
5. Perform hand hygiene procedures thoroughly.
6. Put on a new pair of gloves.

Step Two: Sampling

1. Wipe contact areas with an antimicrobial wipe and follow manufacturer IFUs for necessary contact time.

A) If using a metal AW syringe tip, remove the tip and wipe contact areas with an antimicrobial wipe. Again, make sure to follow IFUs to ensure proper contact time. Do not put metal tip back on before sampling.

B) If using a disposable AW syringe tip, wipe contact areas with an antimicrobial wipe, following the IFUs for proper contact time. Replace with a new disposable AW syringe tip before sampling.

3. Just like flushing between patients, flush each line into a sink, cup, or bucket for at least 30 seconds. Stagnant water may contain higher bacteria counts.
4. Keep test vials standing vertical with caps on/paddles in until use.
5. Remove the first vial cap/paddle and keep both the cap/paddle and the vial in hand. Never touch the inside of the vial or the inside of the cap/paddle. Also, keep hand clear of the water flowing from the device.
6. Once vial is filled to the proper volume, recap or reinsert the paddle promptly to limit exposure.
7. For mail-in test kits, place the vials with the ice pack into the pouch and call FedEx for shipment. Keep vials refrigerated until carrier arrives. For QuickPass™ in-office paddle tests, place away from light at room temperature and follow incubation and reading IFUs.



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Questions?

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