



Food and Environmental Proficiency Testing Unit

The final date for return of results is indicated on the accompanying request/report form

Contact details:

The Organisers - FEPTU
Public Health England
61 Colindale Avenue,
London, NW9 5EQ, UK.
Fax: +44 (0) 20 8200 8264
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8327 7119
e-mail: foodeqa@phe.gov.uk

Results to be returned via an online survey as
per email sent to your laboratory

Norovirus and Hepatitis A Virus Scheme – Instruction Sheet

*This scheme consists of **two** LENTICULE® discs in screw-cap plastic vials (with desiccant). The LENTICULE discs require reconstitution by a process of re-hydration and dispersion prior to examination.*

Refer also to the Safety Data Sheet: www.gov.uk/government/publications/safety-data-sheet-for-lenticules

Storage:

- Store the samples at **-20 ± 5°C** on receipt.
- Allow the LENTICULE discs to reach ambient temperature (5 - 10 minutes) before rehydrating in diluent.

Reconstitution:

- Open the plastic tube and invert it to transfer the LENTICULE disc into a new clean tube.
- Add 975 µL of sterile phosphate buffered saline (PBS) to the LENTICULE disc.
- Leave at ambient temperature for a minimum of 10 minutes to rehydrate. Ensure that the LENTICULE disc has dissolved completely before proceeding, this becomes the sample.
- Disperse the inoculum by inverting approximately 30 times.
- Examine samples between 30 - 45 minutes of reconstitution.

It is not necessary to include a specific virus extraction step – the samples can be subjected directly to RNA extraction. Analyse each sample for all target viruses. If using a quantitative real-time method, quantify each test sample.

Examination:

- Examine sample using your routine molecular methods.
- Detection and quantification (if routinely done) of viruses is required for both samples.

Return of Results:

- Return your results via an online survey as per email sent to your laboratory.
- Return results to the organisers before the deadline shown on the request/report form.