

City of Perth

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Aquatic Facility – Quality Control

This brochure is available in alternative
formats and languages upon request.



Aquatic facilities such as hotel and apartment swimming pools and spas have a number of water standards to be maintained as required by section 5 of the Code of Practice for the Design, Construction, Operation, Management & Maintenance of Aquatic Facilities (Code).

Chemical water standards are to be manually tested on a regular basis by the operator:

- Testing is to be completed at least once per day depending on the aquatic facility classification;
- Results of all water testing and maintenance procedures shall be recorded and kept by the facility for at least two years;
- Chemical water testing monitors free chlorine /bromine levels, pH, cyanuric acid, alkalinity, calcium hardness, total dissolved solids and water balance, where applicable.

Physical water standards are maintained with regards to the water clarity and maximum water temperature. Even while the aquatic facility is not in use, the water clarity is to be maintained in the off-season.

Microbiological water standards are tested by the local government at least once per month in accordance with Regulation 21 of the Health (Aquatic Facilities) Regulations 2007. Two water samples are taken (one for bacteria and one for amoeba) and are tested for Escherichia coli (E.coli), thermophilic Naegleria and presumptive Pseudomonas aeruginosa (heated aquatic facilities only).



The continuous sampling ensures public aquatic facilities are consistently operated at high health and safety standards, minimising the occurrence of disease, injury and other health-related complaints associated with the use of these facilities, for example:

- Bacteria and chemical imbalances can cause skin irritations;
- If water containing amoeba goes up the nose, it can lead to the deadly illness amoebic meningitis.

An improvement order can be issued by the local government if the facility is found to be a risk to the health of its patrons or is not complying with the operational requirements of the Code.