Second edition 2000-04-15

# Water quality — Detection and enumeration of intestinal enterococci —

Part 2:

# **Membrane filtration method**

Qualité de l'eau — Recherche et dénombrement d'entérocoques intestinaux —

Partie 2: Méthode par filtration sur membrane



### ISO 7899-2:2000(E)

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# **Foreword**

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this part of ISO 7899 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 7899-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 147, *Water quality*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Microbiological methods*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 7899-2:1984), which has been technically revised.

ISO 7899 consists of the following parts, under the general title Water quality — Detection and enumeration of intestinal enterococci:

- Part 1: Miniaturized method (Most Probable Number) for surface and waste water
- Part 2: Membrane filtration method

Annex A of this part of ISO 7899 is for information only.

## Introduction

In this part of ISO 7899 a method is described for the isolation of intestinal enterococci. *Enterococcus faecalis*, *E. faecium*, *E. durans* and *E. hirae* can be detected and enumerated with the methods described in this part of ISO 7899. In addition, other *Enterococcus* species and some species of the genus *Streptococcus* (namely *S. bovis* and *S. equinus*) may occasionally be detected. These *Streptococcus* species do not survive long in water and are probably not enumerated quantitatively. For purposes of water examination, enterococci can be regarded as indicators of faecal pollution. However it should be noted that some enterococci found in water can occasionally also originate from other habitats.

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