

Drinking Water Quality for the Period of October 2010 - September 2011

Part A. Microbiological quality

General Points

- Hong Kong enjoys one of the safest water supplies in the world. Since April 2011, we have commenced to monitor the quality of our drinking water in accordance with the World Health Organization's (WHO) Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality (2008). The WHO recommends a set of Guideline Values (GVs) representing the concentration of constituents in drinking water that will not result in any significant health risk to a consumer weighing 60 kg over a lifetime consumption of 2 litres per day for 70 years.
- In extreme cases of contamination, we will take concerted actions with the Department of Health. The public will be informed to take appropriate measures if necessary.
- Samples were taken at water treatment works, service reservoirs, connection points and consumer taps and analysed at site and in WSD's laboratories by WSD's qualified staff.
- During this period, over 26,000 treated water samples were taken for microbiological analyses.
- The drinking water quality for this period fully complied with the World Health Organization's Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality (2008).
- Compliance is based on the annual average of monitoring data in accordance with international practice.

Parameter	Unit	Monitoring Data (10/2010 - 09/2011)			WHO 2008 Guideline Value	Compliance
		Minimum	Maximum	Average		
<i>E. coli</i>	cfu* per 100 mL	0	0	0	0	✓
Total Coliforms#	cfu* per 100 mL	0	0	0	-	-
Cryptosporidium@	no. of oocyst per L	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-
Giardia@	no. of cyst per L	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-

* colony forming unit (cfu)

WHO 2008 has not established health-related GV for Total Coliforms.

@ Although the WHO has not established any health-related GV for Cryptosporidium or Giardia in drinking water, we also monitor Cryptosporidium and Giardia in our drinking water. The monitoring data of 0.00 per litre represents no oocyst or cyst detected in a volume of not less than 100 litres of treated water sample.