

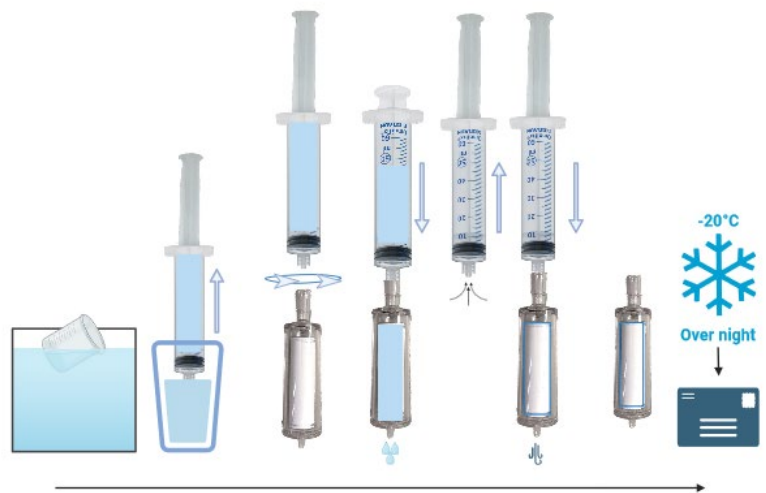
WATERSCREENING PROTOCOL

To ensure high-quality analyses, proper sample collection and handling are crucial. This guide outlines PatoGen's guidelines for collecting and handling water samples.

Both the filter and syringe are intended for single use. The filter can be used to test seawater and freshwater, primarily to detect the presence of bacteria. The method is most effective in environments where concentrated agents are likely, such as in well boats, transport vehicles, anesthetic water, fish tanks, or bioreactors.

Equipment:

- Syringe
- Filter
- Ziplock bag
- Cold pack
- Disposable gloves



Sample handling and filtration procedure:

- Always wear disposable gloves during sample collection to avoid contaminating the sample.
- Collect the water sample using a syringe. If the water is still, mix it well before sampling. If it is challenging to sample directly from the water source, transfer the water to a clean container. Be careful to minimize contamination risks when choosing the container.
- Fill the syringe with water. The recommended filtration volume is 200 ml if the filter allows it. The volume may vary depending on the water source and particle content.
- Attach the filter to the syringe by twisting it on.
- Press the water through the filter.
- To remove any residual water from the filter, draw in air with the syringe and push it through the filter.

Sending samples:

- Pack each filter individually in a labeled bag and store them in the freezer before shipping.
- Label the samples with waterproof marker in uppercase letters (A-Z) to identify each sample. Document the information about each sample on the accompanying form. Note all relevant details, such as the sampling location, environment (freshwater or saltwater), and the volume of filtered water. If the filtration was challenging, feel free to add a comment about this.
- Send the samples in a padded envelope with an ice pack, express overnight to PatoGen's laboratory:

Ålesund: Rasmus Rønnebergs gt. 21, 6002 Ålesund

Oban: Suite 9, Malin House, European Marine Science Park, Dunbeg, Oban PA37 1SZ

Sampling advice:

- If it is difficult to push the water through the filter, using a grout gun can help.
- It is better to filter a smaller volume of water than to try to completely saturate the filter. An over-saturated filter may make it difficult to remove residual water before freezing, which can affect the quality of the sample.

