

# USP CHAPTER 2021 & 2022 MICROBIOLOGICAL TESTING UPDATES

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Effective Date: April 1, 2026*

### 1) What changes are being implemented on April 1, 2026?

USP General Chapters <2021> and <2022> are being updated. Key impacts include:

- Total Aerobic Microbial Count (TAMC) incubation extended from 48 hours to 72 hours.
- TAMC Suitability testing expanded to include bacteria, yeast, and mold, with acceptable recovery reduced from 70% to 50%.
- E. coli detection initial enrichment reduced from 24 hours to 18 hours.

### 2) Why do these changes matter?

These updates strengthen consistency and reliability of microbial results by aligning methods with modern expectations for organism recovery and detection across diverse product matrices.

### 3) Do previously completed suitability studies still apply?

No. All prior suitability studies must be repeated to meet updated requirements and test conditions.

### 4) Will my pricing change?

No. Pricing will remain unchanged.

### 5) When will the new test codes be available?

New test codes will be available April 1, 2026.

### 6) When are the previous codes being deactivated?

Legacy test codes will be fully deactivated by mid-May 2026.

### 7) Can we transition early?

Yes. Early transition is available upon request.

### 8) How will Eurofins support us during the transition?

Eurofins will provide updated suitability guidance, assist with planning, and coordinate sample submissions.

### 9) How will turnaround times be affected?

TAMC incubation increases may extend timelines, while E. coli enrichment may shorten parts of the workflow. Adjustments will be communicated as needed.

### 10) What actions should we take now?

Identify affected products, plan to repeat suitability testing, coordinate timelines with Eurofins, and consider early transition.

### 11) Where can we find additional information?

Resources will be available on the company website

<https://www.eurofinsus.com/food-testing/us-food-locations/madison-wi-eurofins-microbiology-laboratory/>

### 12) Who can we contact with questions?

Please email [Micro\\_mad@ft.eurofinsus.com](mailto:Micro_mad@ft.eurofinsus.com) for all inquiries.

