

Title	Demonstrate knowledge of the microbiology of air		
Level	6	Credits	2

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe the microorganisms found in air, their origins, and mechanisms of dispersion; describe the significance of microorganisms in air quality; and demonstrate methods of sampling air for microorganisms.
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Classification	Science > Microbiology
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 All work must be carried out in accordance with the quality management system, documented protocol system or Standard Operating Procedures acceptable in a commercial or research laboratory.
- 2 Health and Safety practices must conform to Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2243 – *Safety in Laboratories* Parts 1, 2, 3, 7 and 10 available at <http://www.standards.co.nz> and <http://infostore.saiglobal.com/store>.
- 3 Legislation applicable to this unit standard includes:
Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe the microorganisms found in air, their origins, and mechanisms of dispersion.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Microorganisms found in an air sample are described in terms of the possible origins of the organisms.
- 1.2 Description includes physical methods of aerial dispersal of microorganisms.

Range evidence of three methods is required.

Outcome 2

Describe the significance of microorganisms in air quality.

Performance criteria

2.1 The description includes examples of situations where the microbiology of air is significant in terms of air quality.

Range air conditioning systems, aseptic packaging, food processing, public health; evidence of two situations is required.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate methods of sampling air for microorganisms.

Performance criteria

3.1 Sample methods demonstrate the diversity of airborne microorganisms.

Range two methods are required.

Planned review date	31 December 2023
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	17 February 1998	31 December 2014
Review	2	23 November 1999	31 December 2014
Review	3	21 May 2010	N/A
Rollover	4	27 January 2015	N/A
Review	5	27 September 2018	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0113
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact NZQA National Qualifications Services nqs@nzqa.govt.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.