It is recommended that bacterial testing of pool water be undertaken monthly to quarterly depending on risk level of the pool. Samples should be submitted to a NATA accredited laboratory for analysis.

**Record keeping**
Records must be kept for at least 6 months.

**Pool Disinfection**
All pool chemicals used as biocides must be registered with the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicine Authority (APVMA). [http://apvma.gov.au/](http://apvma.gov.au/)

**Superchlorination and shock dosing**
Regular superchlorination should be performed to remove chloramines and to provide extra disinfection to prevent the growth of bacteria and other microorganisms. Hyperchlorination (or shock dosing) needs to be performed to kill Cryptosporidium oocysts. Hyperchlorination should be performed by a pool specialist.

**Ultra-Fine Filtration (UFF)**
UFF is capable of removing Cryptosporidium oocysts. These filters are recommended for use in pools used by toddlers.

**Storage and handling of chemicals**
SafeWork NSW regulates the work, health and safety requirements for the storage and handling of swimming pool and spa pool chemicals.

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**Bather hygiene**
To prevent the transmission of disease, patrons should be encouraged to:
- Not swim if they have had diarrhoea in the past two weeks
- Ensure children use a toilet before entering a pool and take regular toilet breaks
- Shower and wash thoroughly with soap before entering the pool
- Ensure infants who are not toilet trained wear tight fitting waterproof swim nappies and be restricted to swimming in a toddlers pool
- Avoid swallowing pool water

Resources, such as the ‘Steps to Healthy Swimming’ poster and ‘Accident Response Plans’ are available from the NSW Health website, [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

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**Notification requirements:**
Is your public pool notified with the local council?

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**Further information**

Contact your local council or public health unit (1300 066 055) for additional information on the health requirements for public swimming pools.

**NSW Health information:**
Table 2. Chemical criteria for bromine based pools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>SITUATION</th>
<th>CONCENTRATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bromine</td>
<td>Outdoor pool</td>
<td>Min 2.25 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indoor pool</td>
<td>Min 4.5 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spa pool</td>
<td>Min 4.5 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Any pool</td>
<td>Max 9.0 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>Any pool</td>
<td>7.0 – 8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Alkalinity</td>
<td>Any pool</td>
<td>80-200 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanuric Acid</td>
<td>Any pool</td>
<td>None – no benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxidation Reduction Potential</td>
<td>Any pool</td>
<td>Min 700 mV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ORP is a good measure of disinfection effectiveness, however problems will arise if poor quality equipment is installed and/or if they are not regularly serviced.

Water sampling location

Water samples, apart from ozone, should be taken from a depth of 450mm in a location near outlets, gutters or returns. Ozone should be sampled a depth of 450mm near inlets.

Microbiological water sampling

The recommended microbiological criteria for a public swimming pool or spa pool is detailed in Table 3.

Table 3. Microbiological criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST</th>
<th>CRITERION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heterotrophic plate count</td>
<td>&lt; 100 cfu / 100 mL of water sample</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escherichia coli (E.coli)</td>
<td>&lt; 1 cfu / 100 mL of water sample</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</td>
<td>&lt; 1 cfu / 100 mL of water sample</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>