

Table 45-1. Definitions for indicator and index microorganisms of public health concern

Group	Definition
Process indicator	A group of organisms that demonstrates the efficacy of a process.
Fecal indicator	A group of organisms that indicates the presence of fecal contamination. They only infer that pathogens may be present.
Index and model organisms	A group/or species indicative of pathogen presence and behavior respectively, such as <i>E. coli</i> as an index for <i>Salmonella</i> and F-RNA bacteriophages as models of human enteric viruses.

From Ashbolt *et al.* (1)