

## The Most Probable Number Method and Its Use in QC Microbiology

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The most probable number (MPN) method is familiar to quality control (QC) microbiologists as part of the microbial limits tests. Its usefulness goes far beyond this one test, however. The theory behind the MPN method is central to the commonly used D-value determination by fraction-negative method, and a variant of this method has been suggested for trending of environmental monitoring data from the aseptic core. MPN can be adjusted to provide a sensitive method to determine differences between two qualitative microbiological methods. As such, it can be used as a tool in validation...

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