

HISTORIES OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FOURTH EDITION

12. Chemical fact sheets

12.1 Chemical contaminants in drinking-water

Chloramines (monochloramine, dichloramine, trichloramine)

History of guideline development

The 1958, 1963 and 1971 WHO *International Standards for Drinking-water* and the first edition of the *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality*, published in 1984, did not refer to chloramines. The 1993 Guidelines established a health-based guideline value of 3 mg/l for monochloramine in drinking-water. Available data were insufficient for the establishment of guideline values for dichloramine and trichloramine. It was noted that the odour thresholds for dichloramine and trichloramine are much lower than that for monochloramine. This assessment was brought forward to the third edition of the Guidelines, published in 2004, and the fourth edition of the Guidelines, published in 2011.