InfoTECH

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Contact us today

T 01242 662700 | **F** 01242 677978

E sales@cpc-chemicals.co.uk | **W** www.cpc-chemicals.co.uk

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Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Pseudomonas are widely distributed in the environment and are likely to be introduced into a swimming pool or hot tub by bathers. They are killed by chlorine and bromine but may survive in areas of poor circulation, in biofilms and/or where disinfection is inadequate. Pseudomonas aeruginosa can cause ear infections and skin rashes.

The organism is found more often in commercial and domestic hot tubs than in swimming pools. This is probably due to a number of reasons, some of which may be:

- Poor or inadequate water quality management
- Poor design; filtration, circulation etc.
- Unclean balance tank and/or overflow system
- Poor disinfection and/or pH control
- Inadequate filter backwash due to insufficient water available in the system (water runs out before the filter is properly clean)

If Pseudomonas are found or suspected, the following advice is based upon experience gleaned over the years:

- Apply AquaSPArkle DiOx Ultra, following the product instructions
- Empty the hot tub
- Empty the media from the filter or remove the filter cartridge
- Clean all accessible surfaces thoroughly, including overflow channel, inside the filter shell, inside the strainer basket's and inside the balance tank
- Recharge the filter with all new media or add a new cartridge filter
- Fill the system with clean water
- Chlorinate with un-stabilised chlorine to 50mg/l (ppm) of free chlorine with the pH as close to 7.0 as possible
- Circulate ALL parts of the system for 24-48 hours. This will entail switching the air blower and/or booster pump on and off (intermittently) so that the strong disinfection solution reaches all areas.
- Drain and refill or dechlorinate
- As soon as practicably possible, arrange a full bacteriological water test

Note: This procedure is based on our best knowledge but this is not guaranteed.