

IDEXX

Importance of Validation for Wastewater Surveillance DHS/NIST SWWS Workshop, June 15th 2021 Brian Swalla, PhD brian-swalla@idexx.com

Shifting from method development to routine monitoring requires a change in focus

Method Development

- Experimentation
- Speed (especially in a pandemic)
- Agility (ability to quickly evaluate changes)
- Proof-of-concept

- Stability
- Consistency and repeatability

Routine Monitoring

- Record keeping
- Quality controls and SOPs
- Standardized training



IDEXX has generated validation data that supports routine monitoring with high-quality data



* Please contact IDEXX Water Technical Support for more information or a copy of the full validation report

Method:

- PEG concentration protocol \bigcirc
- **IDEXX** Magnetic Bead Kit \bigcirc
- **IDEXX SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR** Test Kit

Validation parameters:

- 100+ samples \bigcirc
 - 15+ different wastewater \bigcirc treatment facilities
 - Geographically diverse
- Independent test dates Ο
- Multiple analysts Ο
- Different material & reagent lots
- Varied lab equipment \bigcirc



The Houston Health Department (HHD) demonstrated the consistency of a validated test



Adoption of a validated test provided:

- Higher consistency
- Higher sensitivity
- $\,\circ\,$ Accelerated learning curve
- Technical support
- Confidence in results





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