



Designation: D7979 – 20

Standard Test Method for Determination of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water, Sludge, Influent, Effluent, and Wastewater by Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D7979; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This procedure covers the determination of selected per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) in a water matrix using liquid chromatography (LC) and detection with tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS). These analytes are qualitatively and quantitatively determined by this test method. This test method adheres to a technique known as selected reaction monitoring (SRM) or sometimes referred to as multiple reaction monitoring (MRM). This is not a drinking water method; performance of this test method has not been evaluated on drinking water matrices.

1.2 The method detection limit (MDL)² and reporting range³ for the target analytes are listed in [Table 1](#). The target concentration for the reporting limit for this test method was 10 ng/L for most of the target analytes at the time of development.

1.2.1 The reporting limit in this test method is the minimum value below which data are documented as non-detects. The reporting limit may be lowered providing your lab meets the minimum performance requirements of this test method at the lower concentrations, this test method is performance based and modifications are allowed to improve performance. Analyte detections between the method detection limit and the reporting limit are estimated concentrations and are not reported following this test method. In most cases, the reporting limit is the concentration of the Level 1 calibration standard as shown in [Table 4](#) for the PFASs after taking into account the 50 % dilution with methanol. It is above the Level 1 calibration

concentration for FHEA and FOEA, these compounds can be identified at the Level 1 concentration but the standard deviation among replicates at this lower spike level resulted in a higher reporting limit.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.5 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*⁴

- [D1129 Terminology Relating to Water](#)
- [D1193 Specification for Reagent Water](#)
- [D2777 Practice for Determination of Precision and Bias of Applicable Test Methods of Committee D19 on Water](#)
- [D3856 Guide for Management Systems in Laboratories Engaged in Analysis of Water](#)
- [D3694 Practices for Preparation of Sample Containers and for Preservation of Organic Constituents](#)
- [D4841 Practice for Estimation of Holding Time for Water Samples Containing Organic and Inorganic Constituents](#)
- [D5847 Practice for Writing Quality Control Specifications for Standard Test Methods for Water Analysis](#)
- [E2554 Practice for Estimating and Monitoring the Uncertainty of Test Results of a Test Method Using Control Chart Techniques](#)

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D19](#) on Water and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D19.06](#) on Methods for Analysis for Organic Substances in Water.

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² The MDL is determined following the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 40 CFR Part 136, Appendix B utilizing dilution and filtration. Five-mL sample of water was utilized. A detailed process determining the MDL is explained in the reference and is beyond the scope of this test method to be explained here.

³ Reporting range concentration is calculated from [Table 4](#) concentrations assuming a 30- μ L injection of the Level 1 calibration standard for PFASs, and the highest level calibration standard with a 10-mL final extract volume of a 5-mL water sample. Volume variations will change the reporting limit and ranges.

⁴ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.