

Communication by the VAH Disinfectants Commission

Price List for Participation in VAH Ring Trials



As of 1 January 2024

The quality control of test laboratories whose test reports form the basis for the evaluation and certification of chemical disinfectant procedures by the Disinfectant Commission of the Association for Applied Hygiene (VAH), includes regular participation in ring trials administered by VAH. All test laboratories that are accredited in accordance with DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025 and carry out the corresponding efficacy tests are obliged by the accreditation body to demonstrate their qualifications in ring trials. However, applications for VAH ring trials can be submitted by all test laboratories in Germany and abroad, regardless of accreditation.

The VAH proficiency test centre is embedded in the Department for Disinfectant Testing at the Institute for Hygiene and Public Health at Bonn University Hospital. Through these ring trials for the validation and verification of test procedures, it continuously ensures and improves the quality of the test methods as well as of the laboratories which carry out these tests.

The planning, organisation and implementation of ring trials involve considerable efforts. By resolution of the Disinfectants Commission of 8 December 2023, the following price list, consisting of two models, will therefore be introduced from 1 January 2024 (see also Table 1):

Model 1: Annual subscription

- Annual fee: 750 € plus 19% VAT. It includes participation in two ring trials per year with the receipt of a report and a certificate of participation. Each (optional) additional ring trial in the pertaining year will be charged at 350 € plus 19 % VAT.

Model 2: Single Booking

- Fee per ring trial: 500 € plus 19% VAT. The fee includes participation in the one ring trial selected with the receipt of a report and a certificate of participation.

Table 1: Price list for VAH ring trials*, as of 15 January 2024

Annual Subscription	Single Booking/1 Ring trial
Annual subscription fee: 750 € <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 2 ring trials per year incl. report (PDF) and certificate➤ Each additional ring trial (optional): 350 €	Participation fee for one ring trial: 500 € <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Report (PDF) and certificate

*All prices plus 19% VAT

The participation fees for both models also include the shipment of test materials (within Europe), the evaluation of the results obtained and individual support for the laboratories with regard to queries and assistance in identifying problems and finding solutions. Registration for the 2024 ring trials can

be submitted via a registration form which is available on the VAH website <https://vah-online.de/en/for-laboratories>

Table 2 gives an overview of the VAH ring trial agenda for 2024 until 2026. Each year a minimum of one ring trial of a quantitative suspension test and one ring trial of simulated-use tests will be offered. Starting 2025, a third ring trial will be offered per year.

Table 2: VAH ring trial agenda 2024–2026, as of 1 January 2024

Year	Registration	Method	Test Organism	Start of the Ring Trial
2024	April	EN 13727 / VAH Method 9	<i>Enterococcus hirae</i>	May
	August	EN 14562 / VAH Method 15	<i>Candida albicans</i>	September
More ring trials will be offered on demand				
2025	February	EN 16615 / VAH Method 14.2	<i>Candida albicans</i>	March
	June	EN 14563 / VAH Method 15	<i>Mycobacterium avium</i> / <i>Mycobacterium terrae</i>	July
	September	EN 14476	<i>Modified Vaccinia Virus Ankara</i>	October
More ring trials will be offered on demand				
2026	February	EN 13727 / VAH Method 9	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	March
	June	EN 17387 / VAH Method 14.1	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	July
	September	EN 17126 / VAH Method 18	<i>Clostridioides difficile</i>	October
More ring trials will be offered on demand				

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