

HISTORIES OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FOURTH EDITION

12. Chemical fact sheets

12.1 *Chemical contaminants in drinking-water*

Nitrilotriacetic acid

History of guideline development

The 1958 and 1963 WHO *International Standards for Drinking-water* did not refer to NTA. The 1971 International Standards stated that NTA should be controlled in drinking-water, but that insufficient information was available to enable a tentative limit to be established. In the first edition of the *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality*, published in 1984, it was determined that no further action on NTA was required. A health-based guideline value of 0.2 mg/l was established for NTA in the 1993 Guidelines. This guideline value was brought forward to the third edition of the Guidelines, published in 2004, and the fourth edition of the Guidelines, published in 2011.