



SINTEF

MBA versus QMRA: **Både og eller enten eller?**

Michael B. Waak, SINTEF

23. februar 2026, Oslo

Drikkevannsforskriften (2017)



- ✓ Vannbehandling skal gi tilstrekkelige hygieniske barrierer
- ✓ Behandlingen skal være tilpasset:
 - Råvannskvaliteten
 - Identifiserte farer (virus, bakterier og parasitter)
 - Mengde produsert vann per døgn
- ✓ Hygieniske barrierer er et **funksjonskrav** – ikke et teknologikrav

Hva er mikrobiell barriere analyse (MBA)?



- ✓ Praktisk verktøy for vannverkseiere, planleggere og saksbehandlere

- ✓ **MBA hjelper oss å svare på:**
 - Hvor mye reduksjon er nødvendig?
 - Hvor mye reduksjon har vi i dag?
 - Hvor er eventuelle gap?

- ✓ **MBA operasjonaliserer** barrierekravet i forskriften

Log₁₀-reduksjon

$$R = -\log_{10} \frac{N_t}{N_0}$$

Log-reduksjon (<i>R</i>)	Reduksjon	Gjenværende
0.0	0%	100%
1.0	90%	10%
2.0	99%	1%
3.0	99.9%	0.1%
4.0	99.99%	0.01%

MBA: Kort oppsummert

Patogengrupper



Bakterier

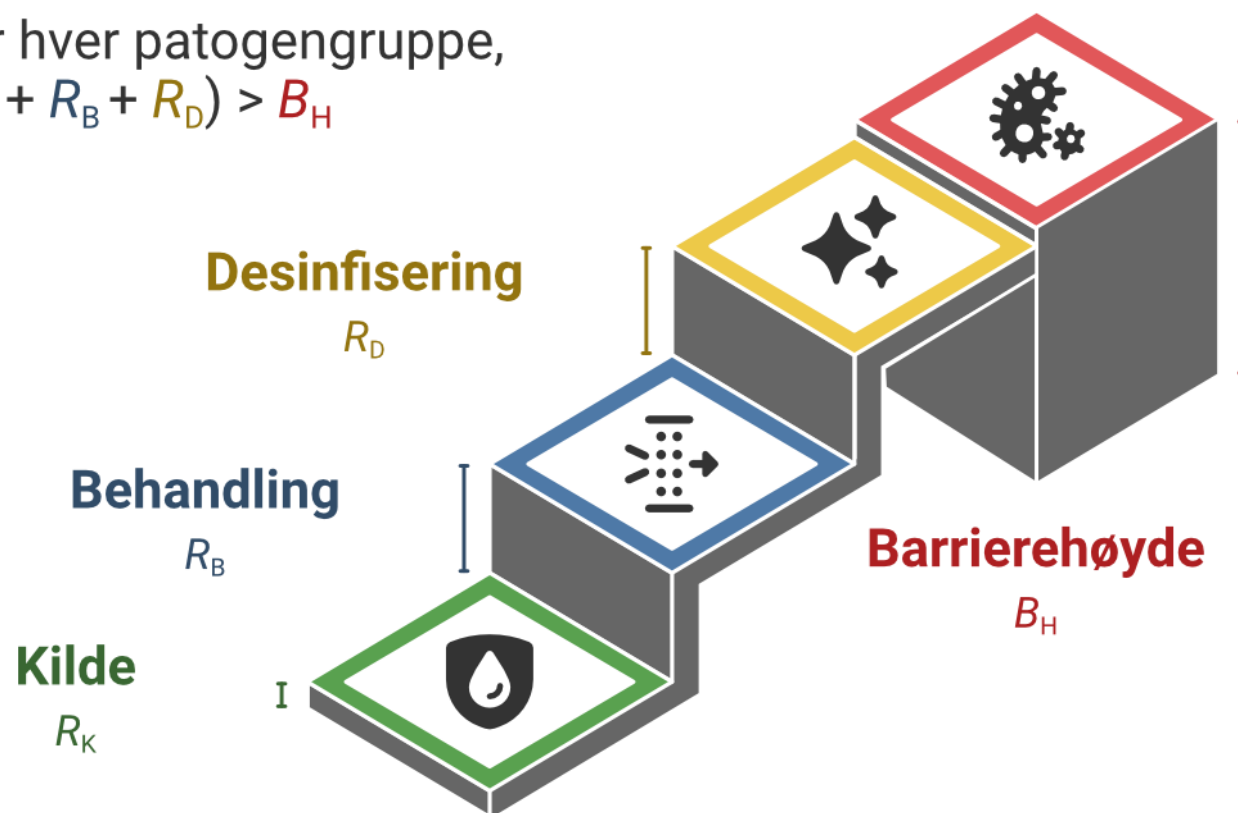


Virus



Parasitter

For hver patogengruppe,
 $(R_K + R_B + R_D) > B_H$



Vannforsyningen: fra kilde til sluttbruker



Vannkilde

Vannbehandling

Distribusjon

Forbruk

Risiko



MBA: Styrker og svakheter



Styrker

- ✓ Tydelig og standardisert rammeverk
- ✓ Praktisk og operasjonelt
- ✓ Design- og barrierefokusert
- ✓ Robust som minimumssikring

Svakheter

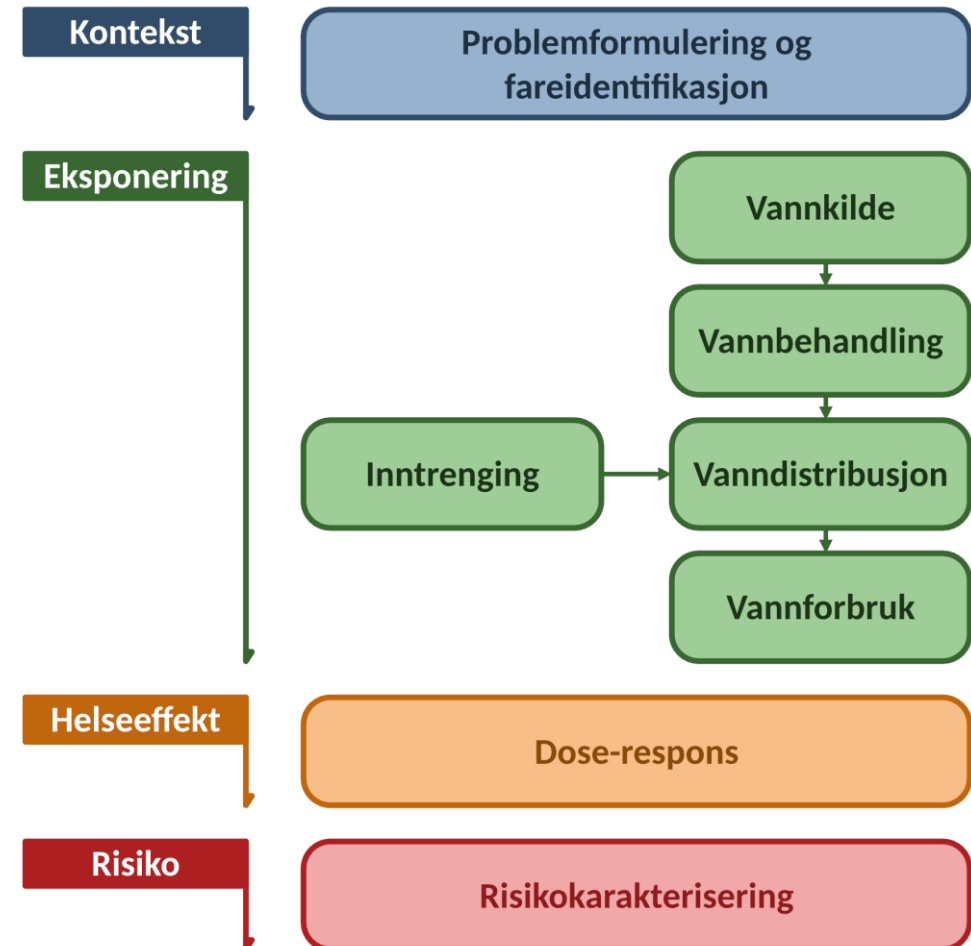
- ✗ Statisk og designorientert
- ✗ Begrenset systemperspektiv
- ✗ Lite eksplisitt kobling til helserisiko
- ✗ Utfordrende ved ekstreme eller sammensatte scenarier

Hva er quantitative microbial risk assessment (QMRA)?



SINTEF

- ✓ Systematisk rammeverk for å evaluere mikrobiell sikkerhet
- ✓ Involvere vanligvis mange Monte Carlo-simuleringer
 - Utforsker variasjon og usikkerhet



Vannforsyningen: fra kilde til sluttbruker



Quantitative Microbial Risk Assessment
(QMRA)

QMRA: Hva tilfører det utover MBA?



- ✓ Oversetter barrierer (log-reduksjon) til faktisk helseutfall
- ✓ Tester om sikkerhetsnivået er tilstrekkelig – også i ekstreme scenarier
- ✓ Kvantifiserer usikkerhet og variasjon i risikoestimatet
- ✓ Støtter prioritering og beslutninger på tvers av hele systemet

Norwegian drinking water supply systems and risk management: guidelines, directives and microbial risk assessment

Av Razak Seidu

Razak Seidu is a researcher at the Department of Mathematical Sciences and Technology, Norwegian University of Life Sciences. He is the leader of the Norwegian Research Council funded project INTWASTE (Project No: 204066). His research interests include drinking water and wastewater treatment; wastewater reuse and quantitative microbial risk assessment (QMRA). He teaches the application of quantitative microbial risk assessment (QMRA) in the design of water and wastewater treatment systems at the Department of Mathematical Sciences and Technology.

Evaluation of the microbial risk reduction due to selective closure of the raw water intake before drinking water treatment

J. Åström, S. Petterson, O. Bergstedt, T. J. R. Pettersson and T. A. Stenström

ABSTRACT

Short-term peaks in pathogen concentrations may increase the risks for waterborne diseases considerably. In this study the occurrence of indicator organisms and pathogens in the river Göta Älv at the raw water intake to Göteborg was evaluated and related to risk for drinking water consumption. About half of the 24 pathogen samples, taken during event and non-event conditions, were positive for at least one of the following: *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia*, norovirus, enterovirus, *Campylobacter* and *E. coli* O157. Positive pathogen detects were often associated with heavy rainfalls and viruses with a sewage emergency discharge. The annualised probability of infection from this type of event was calculated from pathogen concentrations in a QMRA model. Given that the water intake is not closed, the risk given present water treatment seems to be acceptable for *Giardia*; however, it is at a borderline for *Cryptosporidium* and insufficient for noro- and enteroviruses. Present results emphasise the need for an appropriate intake regulation with respect to high pathogen loads, as the risk increases with time of exposure to pathogen contaminants. Rather than a threshold level on *E. coli*, reports on upstream microbial discharges are valuable for quick pathogen indications.

J. Åström (Corresponding author)
T. J. R. Petterson
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,
Water Environment Technology,
Chalmers University of Technology,
SE-412 94 Göteborg,
Sweden
Tel.: +46 31 772 2154
Fax: +46 31 772 3695
E-mail: johan.asson@chalmers.se

S. Petterson
Centre for Water and Waste Technology,
School of Civil and Environmental Engineering,
University of New South Wales,
Killer Sydney, NSW 2052,
Australia

O. Bergstedt
Göteborg Water,
City of Göteborg,
Box 123, SE-428 23 Angered,
Sweden

Integrating Quantitative Microbial Risk Assessment into Health Risk Management of Water Supply Systems in Norway

Av Razak Seidu^{1a}, Arve Heistad¹, Oddvar Lindholm¹, Lasse Vrale¹, Petter D. Jenssen², Thor Axel Stenström¹



Climate-driven QMRA model for selected water supply systems in Norway accounting for raw water sources and treatment processes

Hadi Mohammed ^a, Razak Seidu

^a Water and Environmental Engineering Group, Department of Civil Engineering, Institute for Marine Operations and Civil Engineering, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Ålesund, Langfjellvegen 2, 6000 Ålesund, Norway

HIGHLIGHTS

- The effect of precipitation on pathogen infection risks in drinking water is assessed.
- Risks of infection in small water treatment plants in Norway may be high in the future.
- Extreme precipitation events may pose considerable treatment challenges in

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



Some aspects of deep-bed filtration dynamics in QMRA for drinking water

Vegard Nilsen

Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology, P.O. Box 5003, N-1432 Ås, Norway

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
Received 9 September 2019
Received in revised form
17 November 2019
Accepted 1 December 2019
Available online 6 December 2019

Keywords:
microbial risk
QMRA
Drinking water
Filtration
Dynamics

ABSTRACT

Unlike most unit processes in drinking water treatment, the performance of deep-bed filtration processes vary systematically on short time-scales; the particle removal capacity changes with time since the previous backwash, even when the influent water quality is stable. For microorganisms, the removal efficiency may vary by orders of magnitude. In this note, the potential impact of such dynamics on microbial risk estimates is studied, using representative experimental filtration data for viruses and bacteria in conjunction with single-hit dose-response models for microbial infection.

Assuming that filtration is the only source of variation in pathogen concentrations on the time-scale of a single filter cycle, it is concluded that such variations are unlikely to substantially affect risk estimates, except possibly in an outbreak situation with extremely high pathogen concentrations; it is generally sufficient to know the mean pathogen concentrations. Future studies should include concurrent variation in the performance of other unit processes and raw water pathogen concentrations. Experimental work should focus on capturing the variation in filtration performance in order to correctly estimate mean



A theoretical approach to using faecal indicator data to model norovirus concentration in surface water for QMRA: Glomma River, Norway

Susan R. Petterson ^{a, b, *}, Thor Axel Stenström ^c, Jakob Ottoson ^{d, e}

^a Water & Health Pty Ltd, P.O. 648, Salamander Bay, 2317, Australia

^b Department of Mathematical Sciences and Technology, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Campus Ås, P.O. Box 5003, N-1432 Ås, Norway

^c SAKCHI Chair, IWMU, Durban University of Technology, PO Box 1334, Durban, 4000, South Africa

^d Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Veterinary Public Health, Box 7026, 75009, Uppsala, Sweden

^e National Food Agency, Department of Risk and Benefit Assessment, Box 6225E, 751 26, Uppsala, Sweden

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
Received 23 September 2015

ABSTRACT

Monitoring of faecal indicator organisms, such as *Escherichia coli*, in environmental and drinking waters is inadequate for the protection public health, especially due to the poor relationship between *E. coli* and



Quantitative microbial risk assessment combined with hydrodynamic modelling to estimate the public health risk associated with bathing after rainfall events

Fasil Ejigu Eregno ^{a, *}, Ingun Tryland ^{a, b}, Torulv Tjomsland ^b, Mette Myrmet ^a, Lucy Robertson ^a, Arve Heistad ^a

^a Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU), P.O. Box 5003, N-1432 Ås, Norway

^b Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA), Gaustadalléen 21, 0349 Oslo, Norway

HIGHLIGHTS

- River flooding and overflow from combined sewer system after rainfall event contaminate the recreational beaches
- Hydrodynamic modelling was used to identify the spatial distribution of microbial pathogens
- The public health risk was estimated by a probability of exposure relation work

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



Masteroppgave 2021 30 stp
Fakultet for realfag og teknologi

Nasjonalt estimat over sykdom fra drikkevann i Norge basert på Kvantitativ Mikrobiell Risikoanalyse (QMRA)

National Estimate of Waterborne Diseases in Norway based on Quantitative Microbial Risk Assessment (QMRA)

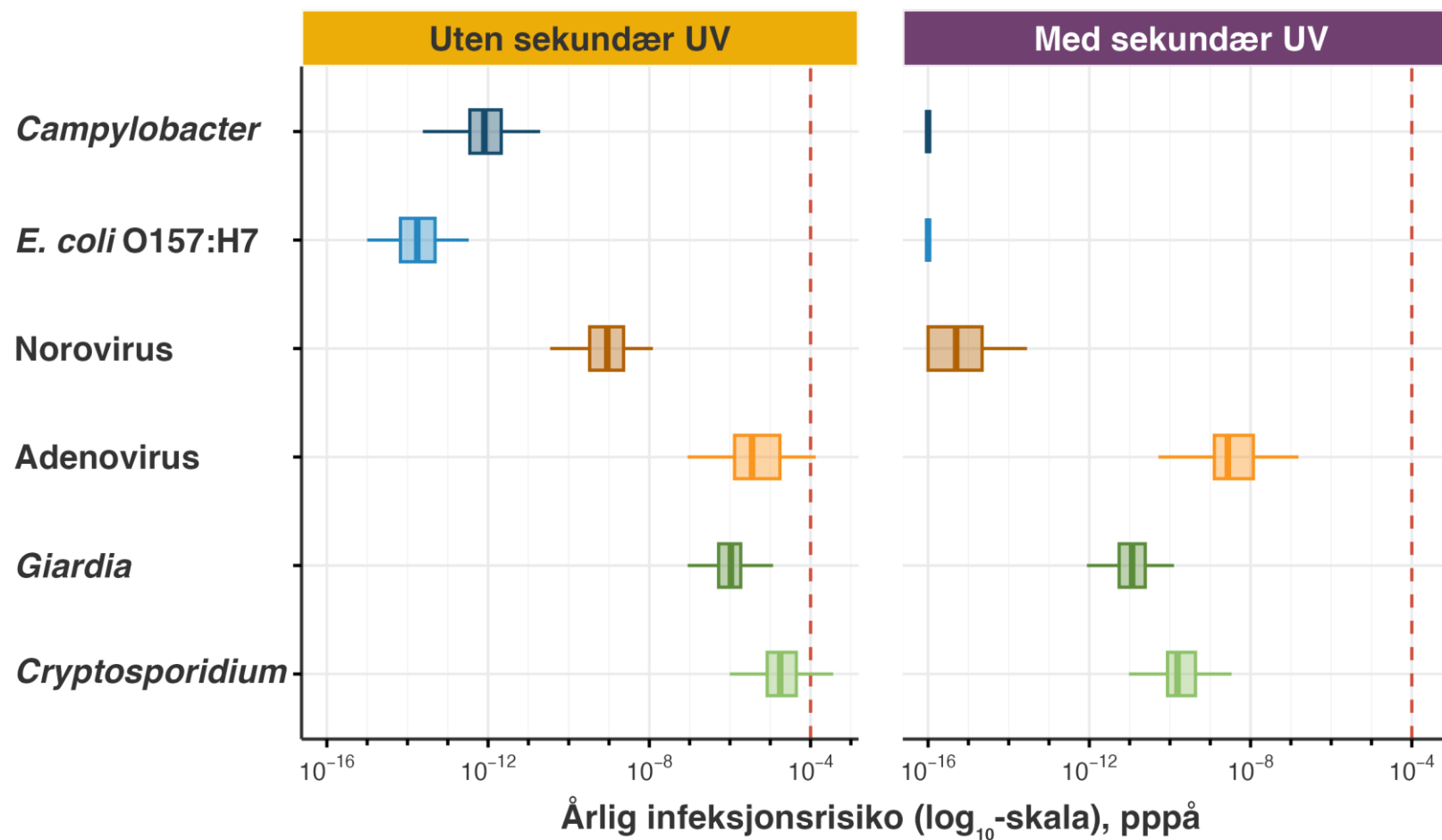
Frieda Trones Lieung
Vann- og miljøteknikk

Case-studie: Innlekking til fjellanlegg



- ✓ Samarbeid med Trondheim kommune
- ✓ Medfinansiert med tilskudd fra Folkehelseinstituttet (FHI)
- ✓ **Støtte beslutningstaking og ressursprioritering**
 - Tetting av lekkasjer
 - Bruk av sekundær UV-desinfeksjon

Eksempel av QMRA

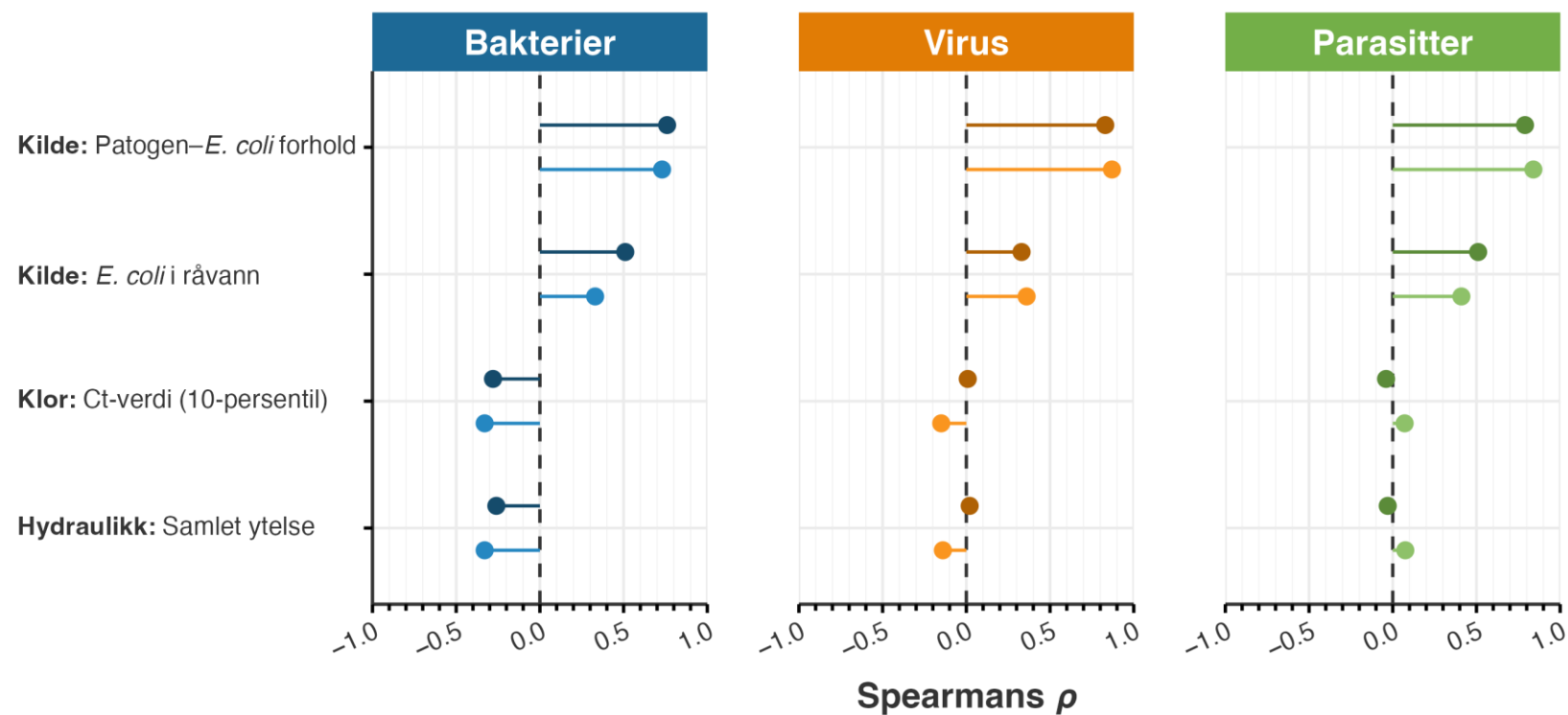


Sensitivitetsanalyse

Risiko påvirkes av antagelser!



SINTEF



Patogen

—●— *Campylobacter*

—●— *E. coli* O157:H7

—●— Norovirus

—●— Adenovirus

—●— *Giardia*

—●— *Cryptosporidium*

Eksempler: relevans for Norge



- ✓ Utforsk virkningene av fremtidige klimascenarier på kildevannskvaliteten
- ✓ Støtt utviklingen av kommunale vannsikkerhetsplaner
- ✓ Forberede seg på ekstreme hendelser
- ✓ Valg av ny primær- eller reservevannkilde

QMRA: Styrker og svakheter



Styrker

- ✓ Kvantifiserer faktisk helserisiko
- ✓ System- og eksponeringsfokuseret
- ✓ Håndterer variabilitet og usikkerhet eksplisitt
- ✓ Egnet for scenario- og hendelsesanalyse

Svakheter

- ✗ Datakrevende og modellavhengig
- ✗ Mer kompleks og mindre operasjonell
- ✗ Resultater kan være følsomme for antakelser
- ✗ Krever fagkompetanse og tolkning

Kort oppsummert



Der MBA svarer på:

«Har vi tilstrekkelige barrierer?»

kan QMRA svare på:

« Hva betyr dette for faktisk helserisiko –
under normale og ekstreme forhold?»

MBA og QMRA: bedre sammen



- MBA = strukturell og regulatorisk ryggrad
- QMRA = kvantifiserer risiko og håndterer dynamikk, usikkerhet og scenarier
- MBA og QMRA sammen → sterkere beslutningsgrunnlag
- Hvis man måtte velge en metode: **start med MBA**



Teknologi for et bedre samfunn