

- 1 The bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* is commonly found in the throat. *S. pneumoniae* produces hydrogen peroxide as it grows. A sample can be taken from a patient's throat and tested to measure the concentration of hydrogen peroxide. This can be used as a measure of the growth of the bacteria.

You will determine the growth of bacteria by measuring the concentration of hydrogen peroxide in a solution that represents a sample taken from a patient. You will do this by measuring how long it takes for a sample of hydrogen peroxide to cause a colour change in a reaction mixture. The faster the mixture changes to a blue-black colour, the higher the concentration of hydrogen peroxide, and the greater the growth of bacteria.

You will use a range of known concentrations of hydrogen peroxide to estimate the concentration of hydrogen peroxide in a sample.

You are provided with the materials shown in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1

labelled	contents	hazard	volume/cm ³
R1	dilute sulfuric acid	irritant	100
R2	starch solution	low	10
R3	potassium iodide solution	low	10
R4	sodium thiosulfate solution	low	10
H	2.0% hydrogen peroxide solution	irritant	25
U	solution representing patient sample	irritant	10
W	distilled water	low	100

If any solution comes into contact with your skin, wash off immediately with cold water.

It is recommended that you wear suitable eye protection.

You will need to carry out a **serial** dilution of the 2.0% hydrogen peroxide solution, **H**, to reduce the concentration by **half** between each successive dilution.

You will need to prepare **four** concentrations of hydrogen peroxide solution in addition to the 2.0% hydrogen peroxide solution, **H**.

After the serial dilution is completed, you will need to have 10 cm³ of each concentration available to use.

- (a) (i) Complete Fig. 1.1 to show how you will prepare your serial dilution.

Each beaker should have:

- a labelled arrow to show the volume of hydrogen peroxide solution transferred
- a labelled arrow to show the volume of distilled water, **W**, added
- a label under the beaker to show the concentration of the hydrogen peroxide solution.

0 cm³ of **W**