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Sommario/riassunto	Risk characterization is one of the four steps of microbiological risk assessment, which include hazard identification, exposure assessment, hazard characterization and risk characterization. Risk characterization

is defined as an estimation of the probability of occurrence and severity of known or potential adverse health effects in a population based on hazard identification, hazard characterization and exposure assessment. It is in the risk characterization step that the results of the risk assessment are presented. These results are provided in the form of risk estimates and risk descripti