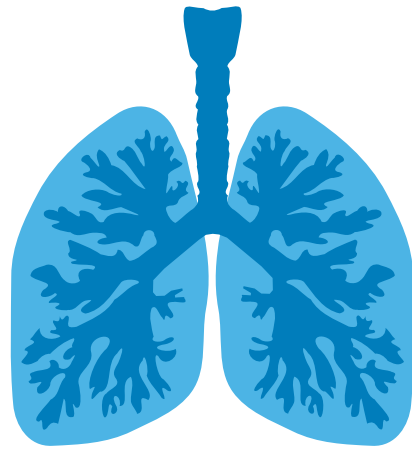


LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE

HELPFUL INFORMATION



THE DISEASE A severe form of pneumonia caused by *Legionella* bacteria. Symptoms of this type of respiratory infection include high fever, chills, cough, muscle aches, headaches, and diarrhea.

MOST PEOPLE EXPOSED TO THE BACTERIA DO NOT BECOME ILL.

TRANSMISSION *Legionella* bacteria reach people **when a water supply is contaminated.** Hospitals, hotels, and large buildings are common locations for outbreaks. The **drinking** water supply is the primary source. Once the bacteria enters a water supply, it can multiply and be distributed throughout the building, coming into contact with people through fountains, mist machines, humidifiers, cooling towers, showers and sinks.

THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IS THE PRIMARY SOURCE

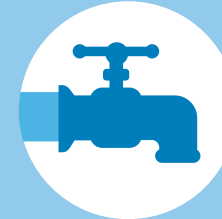
WHO'S SUSCEPTIBLE? The bacteria may enter the lungs through aspirated water droplets. While **smokers, the elderly, and those with asthma, chronic lung disease or suppressed immune systems are more likely to become infected,** healthy people may also be at risk.



Legionella bacteria



POSSIBLE PATHWAYS FOR EXPOSURE TO LEGIONELLA BACTERIA



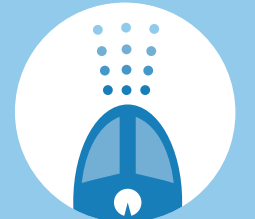
FAUCETS



HOT TUBS & POOLS



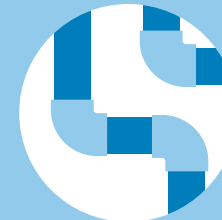
SHOWERS & BATHS



HUMIDIFIERS & MISTERS



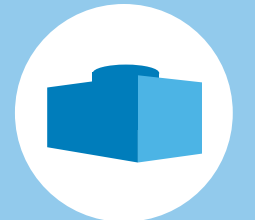
FOUNTAINS



PIPES



DRINKING WATER



COOLING EQUIPMENT



PREVENTION, MAINTENANCE & MONITORING To prevent Legionnaires', the **drinking** water supply must be kept free of *Legionella* bacteria. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have developed a standard for risk management to support proper **maintenance and monitoring** of building **drinking** water systems.

FALSE

Legionnaires' disease most often occurs in large outbreaks.

The primary cause of Legionnaires' is cooling towers.

You can't get Legionnaires' from a shower head.

THE FACTS

Only 4% of Legionnaires' disease cases are part of known outbreaks. There are approximately 5,000 cases per year in the United States.

Peer-reviewed studies published in the New England Journal of Medicine, The Lancet: Infectious Diseases, and many other publications have found the drinking water supply to be the primary source of the bacteria.

Bacteria can grow in the plumbing and in the shower head, which breaks up the water into a fine mist which can easily be inhaled allowing bacteria to travel directly to the lungs.



optimal temperature for bacteria growth