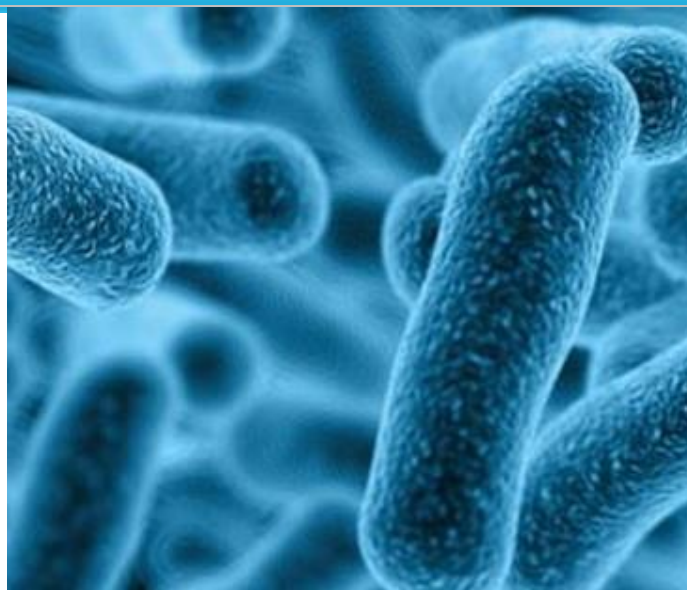


Legionellosis Outbreak Toolbox

Updated: September 2022



Key reference documents

- [Legionella and the prevention of legionellosis](#) (Geneva: World Health Organization; 2007)
- [WHO Legionellosis Fact Sheet](#) (Geneva: World Health Organization; 2022)



Case definitions

WHO suggested outbreak case definition

Suspected case

- Relevant pneumonic or non-pneumonic illness but no supporting microbiological evidence

Confirmed case

- Relevant pneumonic illness and microbiological evidence of infection

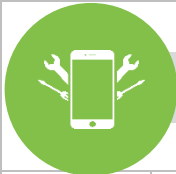
Discarded case


- No microbiological evidence of infection.


WHO surveillance case definitions


- Based on the patient's clinical history, cases are classified as one of the following:
 - Legionnaires' disease (relevant pneumonic illness and microbiological evidence of infection).
 - Pontiac fever or similar illness (relevant non-pneumonic illness and microbiological evidence of infection).
 - Asymptomatic legionellae infection (no illness compatible with microbiological result).
 - Legionella infection (microbiological evidence of infection but symptoms not known).
 - Suspected legionellosis (relevant pneumonic or non-pneumonic illness but no supporting microbiological evidence).

WHO other definitions	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital acquired (nosocomial) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date(s) of admission to hospital(s) before onset of symptoms. • Community acquired <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Known exposure to cooling towers, whirlpool spas, showers, etc. • Travel associated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Countries visited, dates of stay, name and address of accommodation used, room number, name of tour operator, use of showers, spa pools, etc. • Domestically acquired <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of domestic water system during incubation period, in absence of other risk exposures.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legionella and the prevention of legionellosis (Geneva: World Health Organization; 2007)

	Data collection tools
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case report forms: Not available • Line list: Not available. • Electronic tools: Not available.

	Laboratory confirmation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legionella and the prevention of legionellosis (World Health Organization 2007, (Chapter 11 page 175-193).

	Response tools and resources
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legionella Environmental Assessment Form Marking Guide (Centre for Disease Control and Prevention,2022).

	Training
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not available



Other resources

- [Legionnaires' disease outbreak case definitions](#) (Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2008).
- [Legionnaires' disease outbreak investigation toolbox](#) (Stockholm: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control; 2022).
- [Legionella \(Legionnaires' Disease and Pontiac Fever\)](#) (Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2021).
- [Toolkit for Controlling Legionella in Common Sources of Exposure](#) (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021).
- [CDC Legionella materials](#) (Atlanta: Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021).
- [European Technical Guidelines for the Prevention, Control and Investigation of Infections Caused by Legionella species](#), (Stockholm; The European Guidelines Working Group; 2017).
- [Legionnaires' disease: guidance, data and analysis](#) (Public Health England, 2021).