



LEGIONELLOSIS:

Quick Tips for Local Health Departments to Conduct Successful Case Investigations

LABORATORY RESULTS

- Confirm the reported results meet the laboratory criteria of the case definition.
- The most commonly seen confirmatory tests and specimens include:
 - **Urinary Antigen Test (UAT):** urine only
 - **Culture or PCR:** lower respiratory specimens such as sputum, lung tissue, and pleural fluid, or an extrapulmonary site

CLINICAL INFORMATION

Contact the hospital infection preventionist for the following information:

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|---|-------------------------|--|
| ✓ Signs and symptoms | ✓ Underlying conditions | ✓ Received antibiotics |
| ✓ Pneumonia diagnosis | ✓ Discharge date | ✓ Availability of lower respiratory specimen |
| ✓ CXR/CT scan results | ✓ Clinical outcome | |
| ✓ Emergency department visit/admission date | | |

PATIENT INTERVIEW

- Determine the illness onset date based on the start of symptoms.
- Identify potential exposures to aerosolized water in the 14 days before illness onset including:
 - Visits to hotels, health care facilities, use of respiratory therapy equipment, time spent near hot tubs, or work-related exposures.
- **Send a certified letter if there is no response after at least three attempts to reach the patient.**

CASE CLASSIFICATION

- Select “confirmed” if the case meets, both, the confirmatory laboratory **and** clinical criteria; otherwise, select “not a case” and provide detailed reasoning.
- Once the investigation is complete, mark it as “LHD closed.” Ensure all data is entered into CDRSS. **The CDC Legionellosis Case Form is no longer required.**
- Inform New Jersey Department of Health within one business day of exposures related to hot tubs, travel, health care, assisted living, or senior living facilities.



For general inquiries, email:
preventLD@doh.nj.gov



To learn more about Legionellosis, visit:
nj.gov/health/cd/topics/legion.shtml