# LEGIONELLA PREVENTION AND CONTROL



# LEGIONELLA PREVENTION AND CONTROL. FROM THE SAFE WATER AUTHORITY.®

## A GROWING THREAT

In a 2015 report, the CDC confirmed an alarming increase in Legionella bacteria-related disease outbreaks in the U.S. Most troubling: the fact that more than half of those infections originated in hospitals or healthcare facilities. And according to the journal, Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology, the fatality rate of hospital-acquired Legionella is 28%.



In the absence of a Legionella vaccine, this threat must be stopped at its source: the facility water system. OSHA, WHO, and the EPA have all agreed on one point: the responsibility falls directly to the facility owner or manager to institute and maintain a rigorous water management plan.

#### LEGIONELLA

#### WHAT

Legionella (e.g., Legionella pneumophila) is a bacterial pathogen that, in humans, causes a severe form of pneumonia. The infection is water-born – not air-born – and typically enters the lungs via aerosolized water.

#### WHERE

In man-made environments, the pathogen can multiply in water sources susceptible to stagnation and contamination, such as central air conditioning systems, cooling towers, evaporative coolers, humidifiers, whirlpool spas, water heating systems, showers, ice machines, and misting systems.

#### How

The bacteria attack the immune response system by infecting white blood cells, destroying them, and multiplying. There is no preventive vaccine; treatment is via antibiotics. Hospital-acquired Legionella pneumonia has a fatality rate of 28%, and if treatment is delayed by misdiagnosis, can rise as high as 50%.\*

<sup>\*</sup>National Institutes of Health: US National Library of Medicine, 5 August 2015

## THE HYDROCORP WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Water System Analysis and Drawings. From the Experts.

Strict guidelines, including
ASHRAE Standard 188
(American Society of
Heating, Refrigerating and
Air Conditioning Engineers)
and VHA Directive 1061
have established minimum
Legionellosis risk
management requirements
for building water systems.
HydroCorp can help you

meet them. Our detailed water system survey, drawings and program development services are the foundation for a water management plan, that will help identify and mitigate legionella and other threats to hospitals and healthcare facilities.



### PROTECTING WATER. PROTECTING PEOPLE.

It's not surprising that HydroCorp should take the lead on this critical health and safety issue.

It's something we've done for over 30 years now...keeping water safe is our specialty.

Through comprehensive piping inspections, cross-connection control and backflow prevention services, we've helped ensure safe water for millions, in industries and municipalities across the country.

Your water management program for healthcare facilities is delivered in two phases:

Phase I is a comprehensive in-field survey and physical mapping of the entire water system, with all piping and CCPs – Critical Control Points – identified, evaluated and characterized.

Phase II results in a Water System Management Plan Report detailing the site's water system, CCPs, establishment of control limits and measures, sampling and plan validation, and recommendations to address potential threat areas.

#### LEGIONELLA PREVENTION AND CONTROL SERVICES



#### FIELD SURVEY AND WATER SYSTEM DRAWINGS

Comprehensive Water System Inventory with Complete Water Piping Drawings

#### Expanded Survey of Facility's Entire Potable Cold and Hot Water Piping Systems, Including:

- Hot and cold water supply source evaluation
- Hot or tempered water supply and return piping
- Mixing and anti-scald valves
- All system valves and orientation
- Hammer arrestors
- Storage tanks/expansion tanks and sizes
- Recirculating pumps
- All water-using equipment (sinks, showers, spas, ice machines, etc.)
- Pipe diameter, material, insulation, and label identification
- Water filters/treatment devices
- Backflow preventers

#### Data Collected May Be Used To Mitigate Legionella By Identifying:

- Potentially hazardous cross connections
- Dead legs
- Leaks in piping system
- Areas subject to low water flow/stagnation
- Areas of piping system vulnerable to decreased temperatures and/or disinfectant residuals
- System components requiring replacement or removal
- Water system points requiring preventative maintenance and monitoring

#### Digital (CAD) and Physical Drawings:

• Mapping of entire water system, including all piping, CCPs, backflow prevention devices, dead legs, water usage points and recommendations





Water System Management Plan Report – Critical Control Point Identification

#### **Executive Summary of Water Supply to Building:**

· Includes source evaluation, age of building and water piping system, types of water treatment and water supply network, history of any water-related events, etc.

#### Critical Control Point (CCP) Inventory:

• Inventory of individual equipment (Critical Control Points, or Water Management Points) that may pose a risk for allowing Legionella growth or proliferation. These may include cooling towers, evaporative condensers, domestic hot-water systems, humidifiers, spas and whirlpools, backflow preventers, etc.

#### Critical Control Point (CCP) Description and Status:

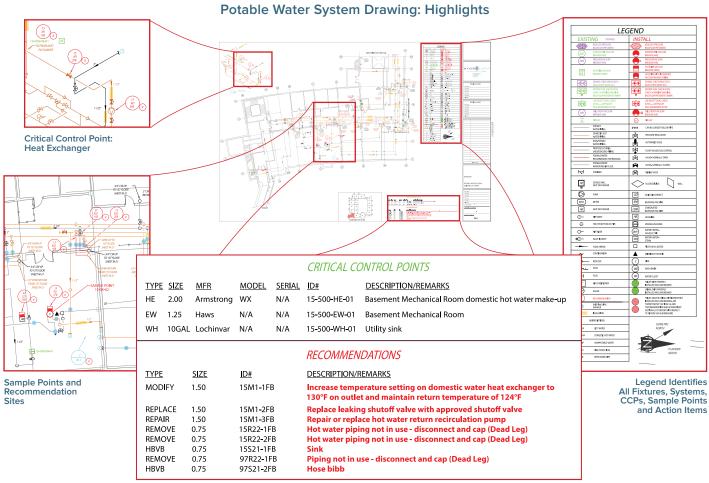
· Description of each individual CCP, and recommendations to address any acute conditions at individual CCPs

#### **Program Recommendations:**

• Recommendations for ongoing preventative maintenance and control measures to maintain CCPs within safe operating and control parameters



#### HYDROCORP LEGIONELLA SURVEY







#### BECAUSE KNOWING MEANS PEACE OF MIND

The astonishing complexity of a typical healthcare facility water system makes it difficult to stay up to-the-minute about every potential safety risk. Facilities change. New functions and new capacities are incorporated.

Maintenance schedules get modified.

Drawings get misplaced. Put simply, there are dark corners in virtually every major building water system. And you probably don't know where they all are.

Potential threats are identified, from Legionella to backflow. You have complete system visibility, a clear map that identifies every line and component of your water system. This map is the foundation for a robust risk mitigation plan, for efficient, cost-effective maintenance and inspections, and for planning expansions and renovations. And HydroCorp can take responsibility for implementing a complete water management plan, customized for your needs and budgets.

With HydroCorp, you'll know...

#### THE DECISION IS CLEAR

The costs of any Legionella outbreak, in terms of life and financial exposure, are grave. But especially for hospitals and healthcare facilities – facilities designed to treat disease, not cause it – the outcomes can be catastrophic. A rigorous water management program may have helped prevent recent outbreaks, and the deaths that followed. And it can help prevent them in the future. For organizations devoted to saving and preserving lives, that's an easy decision to make.

Call HydroCorp today at 248.250.5000.



#### CORPORATE OFFICE

5700 Crooks Road, Suite 100
Troy, MI 48098
800.690.6651 TOLL FREE
248.250.5000 PHONE
248.786.1788 FAX GENERAL
info@hydrocorpinc.com EMAIL

#### MIDWEST REGION OFFICE

2665 S. Moorland Road, Suite 209 New Berlin, WI 53151 800.315.4305 TOLL FREE 262.264.6402 PHONE

#### MID-ATLANTIC REGION OFFICE

210 Vickers Drive
Milford, DE 19963
800.690.6651 ext. 5003 PHONE

#### SOUTHERN REGION OFFICE

800.690.6651 ext. 5001 **PHONE** 

www.hydrocorpinc.com

The information contained in this brochure about Legionella (e.g., Legionella pneumophila) is presented in summary form only and is intended to provide a broad understanding of the concerns, possible side effects, and possible consequences of the disease. The information concerning Legionella should not be considered complete. HydroCorp makes no warranties or representations as to the accuracy, completeness, currency, or reliability of any information contained herein about Legionella. You are responsible for taking all precautions necessary to ensure that the information presented on the disease is true, accurate and up-to-date.