# Health Advisory: Legionellosis Cases

Minnesota Department of Health Fri Sep 9 15:00 CDT 2016

**Action Steps:**
***Local and tribal health department:*** Please forward to hospitals, clinics, urgent care centers, emergency departments, and convenience clinics in your jurisdiction.
***Hospitals, clinics and other facilities:*** Please forward to infection preventionists, internists, infectious disease doctors, emergency department staff and all other health care providers who might see patients with acute respiratory symptoms.
***Health care providers:***

* Consider Legionnaires’ disease when evaluating patients who live in or travel to Hopkins, MN.
* Have heightened vigilance for patients suspected of having legionellosis based on symptoms including muscle aches, chills, shortness of breath, headache, fatigue, loss of appetite, and coughing.
* These symptoms are often followed by high fever (102-105°F), pneumonia, and occasionally abdominal pain and/or diarrhea.
* In addition, consider testing for legionellosis in patients with community-acquired pneumonia who have failed treatment; and pneumonia in all immune-compromised patients, or any severe pneumonia.
* Contact MDH at 651-201-5414 (1-877-676-5414) for consultation. This on-call number is available to health professionals 24/7.

Visit the MDH website (<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/diseases/legionellosis/hcp.html>) for additional information on legionellosis and testing criteria.

**Heightened Surveillance for Legionellosis in Persons who Work or Reside in Hopkins, MN Area**

**Summary**
*MDH has been informed of five confirmed cases of Legionnaires’ disease with onset between August 4th and September 1st, who either work or reside within a 2 mile radius in Hopkins, MN.*

**Recommendations**

MDH recommends heightened vigilance for patients presenting with symptoms of legionellosis, and encourages early diagnosis. To assist in the investigation, MDH encourages culture of lower respiratory specimens.

A copy of this HAN is available in PDF and Word format at [www.health.state.mn.us/han/](http://www.health.state.mn.us/han/) .

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