

## LEGIONELLOSIS, TOURISTS – MALAYSIA/SCOTLAND

\*\*\*\*\*

A ProMED-mail post <<http://www.promedmail.org>>

ProMED-mail is a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases  
<<http://www.isid.org>>

Date: Tue, 24 Oct 2006

From: Joe Dudley <[jdudley@eaicorp.com](mailto:jdudley@eaicorp.com)>

Source: BBC News [edited]

<[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/scotland/south\\_of\\_scotland/6076910.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/south_of_scotland/6076910.stm)>

The number of people confirmed with Legionnaires' disease after a war veterans' trip to Malaysia has risen; 3 members of the 115-strong King's Own Scottish Borderers' party have been struck with the disease.

One of the people affected is still in Malaysia, one is in Australia and the 3rd in the Borders General Hospital [Scotland, UK]. All 3 are said to be responding to treatment. Tests are being carried out on a 4th group member thought to have contracted the disease.

2 of the confirmed cases are wives who accompanied their husbands on the trip, while the other is a veteran from Hawick [Scotland, UK]. He is being treated at Borders General Hospital -- it is thought he has a history of kidney trouble, making him more vulnerable to the bug.

KOSB veteran Donald Fairgrieve, who helped organize the trip, said it was hard to be sure where the disease originated. The group traveled hundreds of miles, staying in a number of hotels during the trip. The veterans and their wives returned last week, after the 2-week visit to camps where they served in the 1950s.

Joseph P. Dudley, PhD  
EAI Corporation  
Arlington, VA  
<[jdudley@eaicorp.com](mailto:jdudley@eaicorp.com)>

[Most of ProMED's postings related to legionellosis are from Europe and North America, but the infection -- not surprisingly -- also occurs in Asia, as shown by some of the posts listed below. In addition to *L. pneumophila*, which is usually spread by contaminated aqueous aerosols, *L. longbeachae* can be acquired from potting soil -- with reports from Australia, New Zealand & Japan. No epidemiologic features were given in the post to implicate the latter organism.

ProMED thanks Joe Dudley for contributing this story. - Mod.LL]