

LEGIONELLOSIS - NORWAY(SOUTHEASTERN)(04)

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

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Legionnaires' bacteria emerge again

The potentially fatal Legionnaires' bacterium has flared up again, this time in the town of Gjøvik and in Vestfold County. The bacteria were found in a cleaning plant in Gjøvik, Oppland County and at an oil refinery in Slagentangen in Vestfold. Tests were made at the refinery after an employee was infected.

Health officials in Gjøvik contend the Legionnaires' discovery there presents little danger, but they're urging anyone who fears infection to contact their doctor. The company running the cleaning plant, Norsk Metallfragmentering, has shut it down, reports Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK). Health officials in Vestfold, meanwhile, believe a man from Ulefoss was infected on the job at the Slagentangen refinery.

10 Norwegians died earlier this summer after an outbreak of Legionnaires' Disease in southeastern Norway. More than 50 were infected.
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[This case seems unrelated to the recent cluster. Vestfold is adjacent to Ostfold, where the previous outbreak was. The city of Gjøvik is also in southeastern Norway, somewhat further north and inland. - Mod.LL]