

Date: Mon, 5 Aug 2002 12:36:36 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>  
Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis - UK (Cumbria)

LEGIONELLOSIS - UK (CUMBRIA)

\*\*\*\*\*

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: Sat, 3 Aug 2002  
From: H.Larry Penning <hlpenning@yahoo.com>  
Source: ABC News / Reuters [edited]  
<[http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Living/reuters20020803\\_49.html](http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Living/reuters20020803_49.html)>

Legionnaire's disease outbreak in Northwest England

-----  
An outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in northwest England could involve as many as 120 people before it is contained, health officials and experts said on Sat 3 Aug 2002

But as fears grew that the outbreak in the Cumbrian town of Barrow-in-Furness could be Britain's worst since 23 people died in 1985, officials said they were confident the source had been found, in a leisure center air conditioner, and urged calm.

On Fri 2 Aug 2002 an 89-year-old man became the first person to die and 54 adults were in hospital by the next day; 19 confirmed cases and the rest showing symptoms of the pneumonia-like illness.

Ian Cumming, chief executive of the area's Morecambe Bay Hospitals Trust, said up to 10 people a day with symptoms were being admitted and this was set to continue for around 12 days. "Incubation is between 5 and 10 days...it is usually 6 or 7 days before symptoms show," he told Reuters.

The projections were based on the fact the likely source of the outbreak, an air conditioning unit at a council-run entertainment complex in the town, had been closed on 1 Aug 2002. Local council leader Terry Waiting said the unit had leaked steam and was shut down for maintenance a day before the disease was confirmed. He said tests were under way to confirm this was the source and said the cordoned-off building posed no danger to people.

Health officials echoed his comments at a news conference. "If the source is where we think it is, then control measures have now been taken and it doesn't pose a further threat to public health," said Professor John Ashton, regional public health director. "There is no need for panic. It seems to be a local source, a local problem which is being tackled."

Exactly half the 54 people still in hospital on Saturday were women; 9 people were in intensive care, including 5 whose condition was "giving cause for concern," the Morecambe Bay Hospitals trust said in a statement. The age range of patients was from 18 to 89. In the last major outbreak in Britain, 68 people were infected and 23 died in the town of Stafford in 1985.

ProMED-mail  
<[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>

[This large (potentially 3-digit numbers of cases) outbreak of legionellosis has attracted a good deal of attention based on the number of ProMED-mail subscribers who sent us information on it. We thank all of those who took the time to e-mail us. The total number of cases and overall mortality rate is still awaited. - Mod.LL]

[Reports dated today, Mon 5 Aug 2002, sent in by ProMED subscribers, speak of more than 70 hospitalized, with 56 confirmed, but no more deaths. Public health officials also confirmed last night that bacteria that cause Legionnaire's disease had been found in the 30-year-old air conditioning system of the community centre. The bacteria have not yet been typed as the strain involved in the outbreak, but tests are expected to be completed today, Monday.

Details on Legionnaire's disease for the public are available from NHS Direct Online at the following website:

<<http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk/nhsdoheso/display.asp?sTopic=Legionnairesdisease>> - Mod.JW]

[see also:

Legionellosis, pilgrims - Italy (Puglia) 20020705.4674  
Legionellosis, nursing home - USA (Pennsylvania) 20020615.4507  
Legionellosis - update 20020517.4237  
Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977  
2001

- ---

Legionellosis - Norway (02) 20010906.2123  
Legionellosis - Spain (Pamplona) (02) 20010822.1979  
Legionellosis - France (Paris) 20010717.1379  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) 20010711.1340  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) (08) 20011017.2555  
Legionellosis - UK (London): alert 20010630.1249  
Legionellosis, automobile plant - USA (Ohio) 20010315.0531  
Legionellosis, hospital - Australia (Melbourne) 20010108.0059  
2000

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (09) 20000525.0833  
Legionellosis - New Zealand, UK, ex Australia 20000503.0673  
1999

- ---

Legionellosis - trade fair - Belgium: alert 19991114.2028  
Legionellosis - prisoners - Germany (02) 19991017.1851  
Legionellosis - USA (Pennsylvania) 19990918.1675  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) 19990801.1310  
Legionellosis - Australia 19990801.1309  
Legionellosis - flower show - Netherlands (09) 19990404.0545  
1998

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (04) 19981224.2437  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) (03) 19980722.1388  
Legionellosis, cruise ship - UK (Scotland) 19980629.1206  
Legionellosis, lorry drivers - Europe 19980413.0677]

.....ll/pg/jw

Date: Thu, 8 Aug 2002 12:02:12 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <[promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu](mailto:promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu)>

Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis, potting soil - Australia (NSW)

LEGIONELLOSIS, POTTING SOIL - AUSTRALIA (NSW)

\*\*\*\*\*

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: 7 Aug 2002

From: ProMED-mail <[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>

Source: Daily Telegraph [7 Aug 2002] [edited]

<[http://www.news.com.au/common/story\\_page/0,4057,4855661%25E3163,00.html](http://www.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,4057,4855661%25E3163,00.html)>

Public health authorities yesterday warned people to take care handling potting mix after a second death and 15th case of legionella disease in New South Wales (NSW) in 2002.

The deaths of 2 men in their 70s has prompted NSW Health Minister Craig Knowles to issue a public warning. "It's very important that people take the appropriate safety precautions because something as seemingly harmless as potting mix can have tragic consequences if not handled properly," Mr Knowles said.

"Potting mix contains a potentially lethal cocktail of organisms and should always be handled with extreme care," he added, "Gardening is one of the most relaxing and rewarding of pastimes and spring is when many gardeners are preparing this year's plantings."

The death of a 77-year-old Sydney man in July 2002 follows that of a 78-year-old man in Jan 2002. Another 13 people infected with the illness in NSW this year have recovered. There were no [legionella-associated] potting mix deaths in NSW last year, one case in 2000 and another single case in 1999. There were 4 deaths in 1998.

Director of Communicable Diseases for the NSW health department Dr. Jeremy McAnulty said that with the approach of spring, it was important people took care with potting mix to prevent infection. "The thing we are concerned about is that this disease is preventable," he said.

"Our concern", he continued, "is with springtime coming up and people preparing their gardens for potting and gardening. If people can avoid breathing in the dust while using potting mix, then we can hopefully prevent people getting sick from legionnaires' disease."

Dr. McAnulty said that people should wear gardening gloves and a mask when handling potting mix and care was needed when a potting mix bag was opened to prevent dust inhalation. "It's a good idea to wet down the potting mix so it doesn't generate dust and to wash hands thoroughly after being in the garden," Dr. McAnulty said.

Dr. McAnulty said Legionella longbeachae was a particular strain of the bacterium associated with potting mix and soil. It was distinct from Legionella pneumophila, which could be transferred through fine water droplets from [such sources as] cooling towers for air conditioning systems.

Dr McAnulty said the potting mix bacteria was not associated with any particular brand. "Generally speaking potting mix contains a lot of bugs and bacteria," he said.

[Byline: Anna Patty]

ProMED-mail  
<promed@promedmail.org>

[*L. longbeachae*], originally described in 1981 (1), has been associated with lower respiratory infection in normal and immunocompromised individuals. The organism, especially in Australia, appears to be unique in being associated with pneumonia associated with exposure to soil. The organism has been found in soil and potting mixes from Australia but not from potting mix made in Europe. Importantly, the legionellae from the soil and the patient appeared to be closely related (2,3). However, cases of *L. longbeachae* (see ProMED-mail posting: Legionellosis, potting soil - -USA: May-Jun 2000 20000904.1503) associated with potting soil have been described in the USA and Japan (4,5) as well.

1. McKinney RM, Porschen RK, Edelstein PH, et al: *Legionella longbeachae* species nova, another etiologic agent of human pneumonia. *Ann Intern Med* 1981; 94: 739-43.
2. Steele TW, Moore CY, Sangster N: Distribution of *Legionella longbeachae* serogroup 1 and other legionellae in potting soil in Australia. *Appl Environ Microbiol* 1990; 56:49-53.
3. Lanser JA, Adams M, Doyle R, et al: Genetic relatedness of *Legionella longbeachae* isolates from human and environmental sources in Australia. *Appl Environ Microbiol* 1990; 56:2784-90.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Legionnaires' disease associated with potting soil -- California, Oregon and Washington, May-June 2000. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2000; 49: 777-78.
5. Koide M, Saito A, Okazaki M, et al: Isolation of *Legionella longbeachae* serogroup 1 from potting soils in Japan. *Clin Infect Dis* 1999; 29: 943-44.  
- - Mod.LL]

[see also:

Legionellosis - UK (Cumbria) 20020805.4951  
Legionellosis, pilgrims - Italy (Puglia) 20020705.4674  
Legionellosis, nursing home - USA (Pennsylvania) 20020615.4507  
Legionellosis - update 20020517.4237  
Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977  
2001  
- - -  
Legionellosis - Norway (02) 20010906.2123  
Legionellosis - Spain (Pamplona) (02) 20010822.1979  
Legionellosis - France (Paris) 20010717.1379  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) 20010711.1340  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) (08) 20011017.2555  
Legionellosis - UK (London): alert 20010630.1249  
Legionellosis, automobile plant - USA (Ohio) 20010315.0531  
Legionellosis, hospital - Australia (Melbourne) 20010108.0059  
2000  
- - -  
Legionellosis, potting soil -USA: May-Jun 2000 20000904.1503  
Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (09) 20000525.0833  
Legionellosis - New Zealand, UK, ex Australia 20000503.0673  
1999

- ---

Legionellosis - trade fair - Belgium: alert 19991114.2028  
Legionellosis - prisoners - Germany (02) 19991017.1851  
Legionellosis - USA (Pennsylvania) 19990918.1675  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) 19990801.1310  
Legionellosis - Australia 19990801.1309  
Legionellosis - flower show - Netherlands (09) 19990404.0545  
1998

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (04) 19981224.2437  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) (03) 19980722.1388  
Legionellosis, cruise ship - UK (Scotland) 19980629.1206  
Legionellosis, lorry drivers - Europe 19980413.0677]  
.....mpp/ll/pg/mpp

-----

Date: Thu, 8 Aug 2002 12:15:29 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>  
Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis - USA (Vermont)

#### LEGIONELLOSIS - USA (VERMONT)

\*\*\*\*\*

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: 7 Aug 2002  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promedmail.org>  
Source: Boston.com / AP [7 Aug 2002 09:59 EST] [edited]  
<[http://www.boston.com/dailynews/219/region/State\\_confirms\\_seven\\_people\\_ha:.shml](http://www.boston.com/dailynews/219/region/State_confirms_seven_people_ha:.shml)>

#### State confirms 7 people have Legionnaires'

-----

Tests have confirmed that all 7 people suspected of suffering from Legionnaires' disease have been infected, according to state health officials.

They are being treated at Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin. Officials still haven't found a link between the victims beyond their ties to the Waterbury area.

"We are continuing to investigate whether there are connections among the 7 cases," Health Commissioner Dr. Jan Carney said. "We're also continuing to do what we call active surveillance, to identify any other individuals who may have the disease."

Carney said at least a dozen people who have had symptoms have been tested and have been found to be negative for the disease. "We are calling this an outbreak and that's why we're focusing very detailed attention on our investigation," she said.

The incident began on Thu 1 Aug 2002, after a former inmate at the Dale women's prison in Waterbury was diagnosed with the potentially fatal respiratory illness. After investigators from the Vermont Health Department began looking into other cases of pneumonia that had been identified in central Vermont, 2 more victims were confirmed over the weekend and 4 more

possible cases discovered. All 7 have been confirmed and all have links to the Waterbury, Vermont area.

Carney said her investigators were conducting extensive interviews with the 7, trying to establish any pattern that might reveal how they came down with the disease. "We're looking at their home and work lives, medical histories," she said. "We're looking at activities, hobbies. ... Whether or not since these cases have occurred in the Waterbury area, are there any connections between them?"

Pro-MED-mail  
<promed@promedmail.org>

[Whether the diagnosis of legionellosis was confirmed by serologic methods or by culture is not reported. To confirm that the cases are indeed all related, comparing the individual isolates would be quite useful. The point source in such an outbreak can be difficult to establish but is usually linked to aerosols of water containing the ubiquitous pathogen such as from air conditioners, cooling towers, whirlpools, and evaporative condensers. One outbreak in the USA was linked to a grocery store's ultrasonic mist machine used to keep fruits and vegetables moist. - Mod.LL]

[One wonders if they've checked the prison water system, and whether all of the cases have either visited or passed by the prison? - Mod.JW]

[see also:

Legionellosis - UK (Cumbria) 20020805.4951  
Legionellosis, pilgrims - Italy (Puglia) 20020705.4674  
Legionellosis, nursing home - USA (Pennsylvania) 20020615.4507  
Legionellosis - update 20020517.4237  
Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977  
2001

- ---

Legionellosis - Norway (02) 20010906.2123  
Legionellosis - Spain (Pamplona) (02) 20010822.1979  
Legionellosis - France (Paris) 20010717.1379  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) 20010711.1340  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) (08) 20011017.2555  
Legionellosis - UK (London): alert 20010630.1249  
Legionellosis, automobile plant - USA (Ohio) 20010315.0531  
Legionellosis, hospital - Australia (Melbourne) 20010108.0059  
2000

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (09) 20000525.0833  
Legionellosis - New Zealand, UK, ex Australia 20000503.0673  
1999

- ---

Legionellosis - trade fair - Belgium: alert 19991114.2028  
Legionellosis - prisoners - Germany (02) 19991017.1851  
Legionellosis - USA (Pennsylvania) 19990918.1675  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) 19990801.1310  
Legionellosis - Australia 19990801.1309  
Legionellosis - flower show - Netherlands (09) 19990404.0545  
1998

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (04) 19981224.2437  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) (03) 19980722.1388  
Legionellosis, cruise ship - UK (Scotland) 19980629.1206  
Legionellosis, lorry drivers - Europe 19980413.0677]  
.....mpp/ll/pg/jw/mpp

Date: Fri, 9 Aug 2002 10:05:33 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>  
Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis - Japan (Miyazaki)

#### LEGIONELLOSIS - JAPAN (MIYAZAKI)

\*\*\*\*\*

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: 8 Aug 2002  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promedmail.org>  
Source: Japan Today [9 Jul 2002] [edited]  
<<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/getarticle.pl5?nn20020809a5.htm>>

#### Spa-based Legionnaires' outbreak claims first life

MIYAZAKI (Kyodo) An outbreak of Legionnaires' disease at a spa in Hyuga, Miyazaki Prefecture, claimed its first fatality when a man in his 70s died early Thu 8 Aug 2002, prefectural officials said.

The disease struck visitors to Hyuga Sun-Park Onsen, which opened to the public on 1 Jul 2002 but was shut down 24 Jul 2002 after reports linked it to the disease outbreak. Some 20 000 people are estimated to have used the facility during the period.

The prefecture said 16 people have the infection, including 4 whose condition was confirmed Wed 7 Aug 2002. One of them is from neighboring Kagoshima Prefecture and 3 are from Miyazaki.

In addition, 208 other visitors to the facility are suspected of having been infected with the disease; 2 have died, but it is unknown whether their deaths were caused by the infection.

The Hyuga Public Health Office conducted water quality checks on the spa's baths and inspected other locations on the premises and found Legionella bacteria up to 150 000 times greater than the permissible level set by the health ministry.

ProMED-mail  
<promed@promedmail.org>

[This prefecture is located on the southern island of Kyushu of Japan. -  
Mod.LL]

[Public baths, spas and saunas have been identified as sources of outbreaks of legionellosis. This is the second report of such an outbreak in Japan covered by ProMED-mail (see Legionellosis, public bath - Japan (Ibaraki) 20000628.1069) In that earlier report, there was

mention that Japan implemented surveillance for Legionnaire's disease in 1999, and the largest reported outbreak occurred in March (?1999) at a hot springs resort in Shizuoka state, where 23 people contracted the disease and two later died. If the figure cited in this current report (approximately 220 cases) is correct, this may be the largest outbreak identified in Japan to date. More information (ideally from official sources) on this outbreak would be appreciated. Mod.MPP]

[see also:

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977  
2000

- -----

Legionellosis, public bath - Japan (Ibaraki) 20000628.1069

1999

- -----

Legionellosis - Spain (Benidorm) 19990128.0128

Legionellosis - Spain (Guipuzcoa) 19990604.0934

Legionella advisory, spa - Netherlands 19990404.0546

Legionellosis, 1995 - Denmark 19970228.0471

1998

- -----

Legionellosis, fatal, sauna-related - Netherlands(02) 19980202.0209]

.....mpp/ll/pg/mpp

Date: Fri, 9 Aug 2002 11:06:30 -0400 (EDT)

From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>

Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis - UK (England) (02)

LEGIONELLOSIS - UK (ENGLAND) (02)

\*\*\*\*\*

A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

ProMED-mail, a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases

<<http://www.isid.org>>

Date: 8 Aug 2002

From: ProMED-mail <promed@promedmail.org>

Source: Eurosurveillance Weekly Issue 32 ; 8 Aug 2002 [edited]

<<http://www.eurosurv.org/update/>>

Legionnaires' disease outbreak in England

-----

Introduction

The investigation and management of a large outbreak of legionnaires' disease in north west England is continuing (1). As of 7 Aug 2002, 70 cases had been recognized to be part of the outbreak. All cases have been in local residents except for one case in a resident of Scotland. The probable source of the outbreak was closed on 1 Aug 2002.

A letter from the outbreak control team was cascaded to all general practitioners in the country on 6 Aug 2002 stating that the following persons should be considered at risk of exposure: any individual who has visited the center of Barrow in Furness (within 500 meters of Forum 28)

between 1 Jul and 1 Aug 2002. The letter also stated that anyone with a respiratory illness or other signs or symptoms suggestive of legionella infection (flu-like illness, fever, dry cough, headache, progressing to pneumonia) who met the exposure criteria should be considered as a possible case of legionella infection.

A European alert was sent out on 1 Aug 2002 to all collaborators of the European Working Group for Legionella Infections (EWGLI <<http://www.ewgli.org/>>) collaborators, and to the World Health Organization, but this has revealed no further cases. Information including the questionnaire and updates on the outbreak are available at <<http://www.healthprotection.org.uk>>. This incident highlights the importance of ensuring that wet air conditioning systems are properly maintained and tested, as they have the potential to infect a large number of people rapidly if contaminated with Legionella.

#### Initial events

On Tue 30 Jul 2002, the Cumbria and Lancashire Health Protection Unit (HPU) became aware of a sporadic case of legionnaires' disease in a patient from Barrow in Furness in Cumbria, northwest England. On the morning of Thu 1 Aug 2002, a second case of legionnaires' disease was diagnosed in a neighbouring county in a person who had recently visited Barrow in Furness. It was thought that a link between the 2 cases might be possible, and the Public Health Laboratory Service Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre (CDSC) was immediately informed. CDSC was also informed of a third case and on this basis an outbreak control team was formed, and a meeting planned for 2 Aug 2002. Shortly after this decision 2 further cases were identified, and by the time the outbreak control team met, the local microbiologists in that part of northwest England had identified a further 20 potential cases by urinary antigen detection. These cases had been admitted with community-acquired pneumonia in the previous few days. Staff from the local environmental health department unit reported potential problems with the air conditioning unit at the town civic center, known as Forum 28, in the town center. The environmental health unit had closed down the air conditioning unit the previous afternoon in case it was the source of the problem.

#### Epidemiological investigations

Using standard case definitions for legionella infection (2) a descriptive study commenced that collected data on exposure history and visits to Barrow before illness onset.

It rapidly became apparent that the only common factor linking the cases was having visited the center of the town (in close proximity to the town hall) during the incubation period. Many cases reported walking down a lane between Forum 28 and a hardware shop. There were also anecdotal reports from people who claimed to have seen a large amount of aerosol and water droplets emerging from the air conditioning vent in the lane. The outbreak control team concluded that an environmental source, such as an air conditioning unit or evaporative cooling system, was the most likely source of the infection. [the epidemiologic curve of the outbreak current through 5 PM 7 Aug 2002 can be seen on the website link for this article. - Mod.MPP]

#### Microbiological investigations

Patients have had urinary antigen testing, serology and, where clinically possible, sputum taken for culture. On 7 Aug 2002 there were 70 cases of legionnaires' disease that match the case definition and have been confirmed by urinary antigen detection.

#### Environmental investigations

The local council and the Health and Safety Executive (<<http://www.hse.gov.uk/>>) examined all known wet cooling systems in the town, and searched extensively for other potential sources that may not have been on their registers. There were 4 wet air conditioning systems in the

Barrow area, but the only system within the town center is that in the Forum 28 building. Water samples were taken for culture and immunofluorescence (IF), and *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1 has been demonstrated by IF in pond water samples from the Forum 28 air conditioning unit. Maintenance records are being examined.

References:

1. PHLS. Outbreak of legionnaires' disease in Barrow in Furness. *Commun Dis Rep CDR Wkly* 2002; 12(32).

<<http://www.phls.co.uk/publications/cdr/index.html>>

2. Lee JV, Joseph C, on behalf of the PHLS Atypical Pneumonia Working Group. Guidelines for investigating single cases of legionnaires' disease. *Commun Dis Public Health* 2002; 5: 157-62.

Reported by Nigel Calvert ([nigel.calvert@ncha.nhs.uk](mailto:nigel.calvert@ncha.nhs.uk)), North Cumbria Health Authority, and John Astbury, East Lancashire Health Authority, on behalf of Cumbria and Lancashire Health Protection Unit, England.

- - -

ProMED-mail

<[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>

[see also:

Legionellosis - UK (England) 20020805.4951

Legionellosis, pilgrims - Italy (Puglia) 20020705.4674

Legionellosis, nursing home - USA (Pennsylvania) 20020615.4507

Legionellosis - update 20020517.4237

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977

2001

- - - -

Legionellosis - Norway (02) 20010906.2123

Legionellosis - Spain (Pamplona) (02) 20010822.1979

Legionellosis - France (Paris) 20010717.1379

Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) 20010711.1340

Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) (08) 20011017.2555

Legionellosis - UK (London): alert 20010630.1249

Legionellosis, automobile plant - USA (Ohio) 20010315.0531

Legionellosis, hospital - Australia (Melbourne) 20010108.0059

2000

- - - -

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (09) 20000525.0833

1999

- - - -

Legionellosis - trade fair - Belgium: alert 19991114.2028

Legionellosis - prisoners - Germany (02) 19991017.1851

Legionellosis - USA (Pennsylvania) 19990918.1675

Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) 19990801.1310

Legionellosis - Australia 19990801.1309

Legionellosis - flower show - Netherlands (09) 19990404.0545

1998

- - - -

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (04) 19981224.2437

Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) (03) 19980722.1388  
Legionellosis, cruise ship - UK (Scotland) 19980629.1206  
Legionellosis, lorry drivers - Europe 19980413.0677]  
.....mpp/ll/pg/mpp

Date: Fri, 9 Aug 2002 12:28:58 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>  
Subject: PRO> Legionellosis - USA (Vermont) (02)

LEGIONELLOSIS - USA (VERMONT) (02)

\*\*\*\*\*

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: Thu, 8 Aug 2002 16:36:58 -0400  
From: Ann Fingar <aFingar@vdh.state.vt.us>

In response to the questions posed by the moderators: Urinary antigens were positive on all confirmed patients, sputum samples have been obtained on several of the patients, and sera for acute titers have been obtained on all patients and will be run when the convalescent sera are subsequently obtained.

We are hopeful we will obtain isolates that can be compared to any isolates that grow from environmental samples that we also obtained. Extensive questioning of the cases indicates that exposure was not limited to the prison, and we have investigated the town for water sources including cooling towers, evaporative coolers, hot water tanks, grocery store misters, spas, etc.

Remediation has occurred, even before results of environmental sampling are known, in those sources potentially involved based on the epidemiologic investigation. We continue extensive active surveillance for additional cases and investigation of links among the cases. On 7 Aug 2002 we identified 2 additional cases, bringing the total to 9.

- - -

Ann Fingar, MD  
State Epidemiologist  
Vermont Department of Health  
<aFingar@vdh.state.vt.us>

[ProMED-mail wishes to thank Dr. Fingar for her response to our request for more information on this investigation. We very much appreciate receiving official information rather than relying upon news reports - Mods.LL/MPP]

[see also:

Legionellosis - USA (Vermont) 20020808.4989  
Legionellosis - UK (England) 20020805.4951  
Legionellosis, pilgrims - Italy (Puglia) 20020705.4674  
Legionellosis, nursing home - USA (Pennsylvania) 20020615.4507  
Legionellosis - update 20020517.4237  
Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977  
2001

- ---

Legionellosis - Norway (02) 20010906.2123  
Legionellosis - Spain (Pamplona) (02) 20010822.1979  
Legionellosis - France (Paris) 20010717.1379  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) 20010711.1340  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) (08) 20011017.2555  
Legionellosis - UK (London): alert 20010630.1249  
Legionellosis, automobile plant - USA (Ohio) 20010315.0531  
Legionellosis, hospital - Australia (Melbourne) 20010108.0059  
2000

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (09) 20000525.0833  
Legionellosis - New Zealand, UK, ex Australia 20000503.0673  
1999

- ---

Legionellosis - trade fair - Belgium: alert 19991114.2028  
Legionellosis - prisoners - Germany (02) 19991017.1851  
Legionellosis - USA (Pennsylvania) 19990918.1675  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) 19990801.1310  
Legionellosis - Australia 19990801.1309  
Legionellosis - flower show - Netherlands (09) 19990404.0545  
1998

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (04) 19981224.2437  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) (03) 19980722.1388  
Legionellosis, cruise ship - UK (Scotland) 19980629.1206  
Legionellosis, lorry drivers - Europe 19980413.0677]

.....mpp/ll/pg/mpp

Date: Mon, 12 Aug 2002 22:21:28 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>  
Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis - Spain (Barcelona, Valencia)

LEGIONELLOSIS - SPAIN (BARCELONA, VALENCIA)

\*\*\*\*\*

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: Mon, 12 Aug 2002 12:01:26 +0100

From: Pablo Nart <[p.nart@virgin.net](mailto:p.nart@virgin.net)>

Source: The Daily Telegraph (Australia), 12 Aug 2002 [edited]

<[http://www.dailytelegraph.news.com.au/common/story\\_page/0,5936,4883800%255E401,00.html](http://www.dailytelegraph.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,5936,4883800%255E401,00.html)>

In the Spanish town of Mataro near Barcelona 29 people are in hospital after an outbreak of Legionnaire's disease. Health authorities say the epidemic is under control, but one patient, in her 80s, is in critical condition. Though 3 additional people were affected by the outbreak, they did not need to be admitted to hospital.

The air conditioner of a public building, which has not been identified, is being blamed.

Meanwhile, near the port city of Valencia, 13 other people have also been diagnosed with Legionnaire's disease in 2 small towns, and 9 are in hospital: 6 at Alcoy and 3 at Segorbe.

ProMED-mail

<[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>

[It is likely that there are substantially more cases in the Barcelona outbreak given the reporting that only 3 of 32 cases were not hospitalized. Although the demographics of the affected individuals are not given, it would be expected that a much higher percentage could remain as outpatients. - Mod.LL]

[see also:

Legionellosis - USA (Vermont) (02) 20020809.5007

Legionellosis - UK (England) (02) 20020809.5004

Legionellosis - Japan (Miyazaki) 20020809.5001

Legionellosis - USA (Vermont) 20020808.4989

Legionellosis, potting soil - Australia (NSW) 20020808.4988

Legionellosis - UK (Cumbria) 20020805.4951

Legionellosis, pilgrims - Italy (Puglia) 20020705.4674

Legionellosis, nursing home - USA (Pennsylvania) 20020615.4507

Legionellosis - update 20020517.4237

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977

2001

- ---

Legionellosis - Norway (02) 20010906.2123

Legionellosis - Spain (Pamplona) (02) 20010822.1979

Legionellosis - France (Paris) 20010717.1379

Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) 20010711.1340

Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) (08) 20011017.2555

Legionellosis - UK (London): alert 20010630.1249

Legionellosis, automobile plant - USA (Ohio) 20010315.0531

Legionellosis, hospital - Australia (Melbourne) 20010108.0059

2000

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (09) 20000525.0833

Legionellosis - New Zealand, UK, ex Australia 20000503.0673

1999

- ---

Legionellosis - trade fair - Belgium: alert 19991114.2028

Legionellosis - prisoners - Germany (02) 19991017.1851

Legionellosis - USA (Pennsylvania) 19990918.1675

Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) 19990801.1310

Legionellosis - Australia 19990801.1309

Legionellosis - flower show - Netherlands (09) 19990404.0545  
1998

- ---

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (04) 19981224.2437  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) (03) 19980722.1388  
Legionellosis, cruise ship - UK (Scotland) 19980629.1206  
Legionellosis, lorry drivers - Europe 19980413.0677]  
.....ll/pg/dk

Date: Fri, 16 Aug 2002 22:34:11 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>  
Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis update: 2002 (02)

LEGIONELLOSIS UPDATE: 2002 (02)

\*\*\*\*\*

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

[Depending in the number of reports and their size, postings related to legionellosis may be in update form as here or as in individual reports. Several of the reports within this issue are follow-ups of previous postings. - Mod.LL]

In this issue:

- [1] Japan
- [2] USA (Vermont)
- [3] UK (England)
- [4] UK (Scotland)

[1] Japan (Miyazaki)  
Date: Wed, 14 Aug 2002 14:42:11 +0100  
From: Pablo Nart <p.nart@virgin.net>  
Source Canada.com, 14 August 2002 [edited]  
<<http://www.canada.com/montreal/story.asp?id={01384B89-F4C3-4A36-B92B-3660B4A}>>

An outbreak of legionnaires' disease at a new hot spring resort in southern Japan has killed 6 people and infected hundreds of others who shared the spa's bubbling waters, officials said Wed 14 Aug 2002.

Sun Park Hot Springs opened 1 Jul 2002 and received about 1000 visitors every day until authorities shut it down at the end of July, when the first cases were detected, said Toshiro Atae, deputy secretary at the Public Health Department in Japan's Miyazaki prefecture, or state.

"This was the newest hot spring resort in the prefecture with good facilities. It was not expected that such a thing would happen," Atae said.

Atae's health office said the hot spring infected 223 people with the disease and that 32 of them were hospitalized as of 14 Aug 2002.

Hot springs are a popular way to relax in Japan and are often touted for their purported health benefits. Fans claim they cure everything from skin problems to allergies.

"Normally, when hot springs carry out thorough sanitation procedures, everything is fine," Atae said.

In 2000, 3 people also died of legionnaires' disease after contracting it at a hot springs resort in the eastern prefecture of Ibaraki.

Atae said that the local government will consider disease-control measures after an investigation.

[This outbreak located on the southern island of Kyushu of Japan was first posted on ProMED-mail on 9 Aug 2002 (Legionellosis - Japan (Miyazaki) 20020809.5001). - Mod.LL]

\*\*\*\*\*

[2] USA (Vermont)

Date: Wed, 14 Aug 2002 19:53:09 -0400

From: H. Larry Penning <hlpennin@yahoo.com>

Source: Nando Times [edited] 14 Aug 2002

<<http://www.nandotimes.com/healthscience/story/499296p-3979565c.html>>

Legionnaires' disease sickens 14 in Vermont

-----  
An outbreak of Legionnaires' disease has sickened more than a dozen people and prompted disinfecting efforts at a state office complex to fend off the potentially deadly infection.

A total of 16 people have contracted the disease since late July 2002, including 14 who spent time in Waterbury, and 7 others have a milder form of the infection. All but 1 of the victims were out of the hospital by 14 Aug 2002. State health officials said they could not comment on the last patient's condition.

"People are watching this very carefully," said Anne Noonan, director of the Vermont State Employees' Association. "We are hopeful that very few people have been exposed, but we don't know."

The first case was reported late in July 2002, when a former inmate at the state women's prison, located at the complex, contracted the disease.

More than 1500 people live and work at the complex, a sprawling campus of 39 buildings where many state agencies are headquartered. The complex, a former state hospital, has not been closed.

Of those who were infected, 5 are state employees, Health Commissioner Jan Carney said, 7 others live or spend time in the town of Waterbury, and 2 were prison inmates, she said.

Health officials said a sample taken last week from an air conditioning cooling tower at the complex tested positive for Legionella species. So far 2 cooling structures at the complex have been cleaned, as has a third tower at a nearby business.

"We believe cooling towers are the source and we're optimistic that the public health remedies - the disinfection and cleaning - already taken will be effective," she said.

Even if the source has been eliminated, other cases could spring up because Legionnaires' disease has an incubation period of up to 10 days.

[Byline: Krista Larson, Associated Press]

[This outbreak has been initially posted on 8 Aug 2002 with a follow-up the following day: 20020808.4989, 20020809.5007. - Mod.LL]

\*\*\*\*\*

[3] UK (England)

Date: Wed, 14 Aug 2002 14:44:23 +0100

From: Pablo Nart <p.nart@virgin.net>

Source Guardian, 14 August 2002 [edited]

<[http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk\\_news/story/0,3604,774109,00.html](http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,3604,774109,00.html)>

Legionnaire's disease claimed its third victim at Barrow-in-Furness yesterday, when a woman in her 50s died after a week in intensive care. Only a handful of further admissions are expected to join the 125 confirmed cases, most of which have been traced to a faulty air-conditioning unit in Barrow town center.

The unnamed woman lost her struggle against the disease at Furness general hospital in Barrow, where an 88-year-old man and a 56-year-old woman died last week. Currently 60 people are still being treated in hospital, with 3 seriously ill.

Ian Cumming, chief executive of Morecambe Bay hospitals NHS trust, said: "Furness general continues to see a reduction in new cases, but as this tragic death shows, we are by no means through this terrible time."

Barrow council and Cumbria police were continuing inquiries at the council-owned Forum 28 leisure center, whose air-conditioning spewed infected water vapour into an alley for an estimated 2 weeks.

[This outbreak was originally posted by ProMED-mail on 5 Aug 2002 with a follow-up on 9 Aug 2002: 20020805.4951, 20020809.5004. - Mod.LL]

\*\*\*\*\*

[4] UK (Scotland)

Date: Wed, 14 Aug 2002 11:09:05 +0100

From: A-Lan Banks <A-Lan.Banks@derwent.co.uk>

Source: Herald (Scotland) [edited]

<<http://www.theherald.co.uk/>>

Third case confirmed in Legionnaires' disease outbreak

-----  
A third person has contracted Legionnaires' disease as investigations continue into an outbreak that has killed 1 man and left a woman needing urgent medical treatment. It is not yet clear how the latest victim contracted the disease but health officials have refused to rule out a possible link with the 2 other cases in Ayrshire.

It was revealed on Mon 11 Aug 2002 that an ice rink in Stevenston had been closed voluntarily while inquiries were carried out into the possibility that a cooling system was the outbreak source. Management at the Auchendarvie Leisure Centre, owned by North Ayrshire Council, closed the rink to put in place the necessary improvements.

The center is located near the home of the 69-year-old patient, who died in June 2002 from the disease, and is close to a caravan park visited last month by a woman in her 40s who was diagnosed with it.

Maida Smellie, public health consultant with Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board, said: "We have taken immediate steps to thoroughly investigate the possible cause of the third case. "The third person developed symptoms of the disease while abroad. Given the dates they were abroad, it is more likely that the disease was contracted there. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that this was contracted locally, as the person was in the Saltcoats area briefly before going abroad. "We want to reassure the public that we are continuing our extensive investigations and will vigorously monitor the situation. Results of tests to date have all been negative."

- - -

ProMED-mail

<promed@promedmail.org>

[see also:

Legionellosis - Spain (Barcelona, Valencia) 20020812.5029  
Legionellosis - USA (Vermont) (02) 20020809.5007  
Legionellosis - UK (England) (02) 20020809.5004  
Legionellosis - Japan (Miyazaki) 20020809.5001  
Legionellosis - USA (Vermont) 20020808.4989  
Legionellosis, potting soil - Australia (NSW) 20020808.4988  
Legionellosis - UK (Cumbria) 20020805.4951  
Legionellosis, pilgrims - Italy (Puglia) 20020705.4674  
Legionellosis, nursing home - USA (Pennsylvania) 20020615.4507  
Legionellosis - update 20020517.4237  
Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne): alert 20020417.3977  
2001

- - - -

Legionellosis - Norway (02) 20010906.2123  
Legionellosis - Spain (Pamplona) (02) 20010822.1979  
Legionellosis - France (Paris) 20010717.1379  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) 20010711.1340  
Legionellosis - Spain (Murcia) (08) 20011017.2555  
Legionellosis - UK (London): alert 20010630.1249  
Legionellosis, automobile plant - USA (Ohio) 20010315.0531  
Legionellosis, hospital - Australia (Melbourne) 20010108.0059  
2000

- - - -

Legionellosis - Australia (Melbourne) (09) 20000525.0833  
Legionellosis - New Zealand, UK, ex Australia 20000503.0673  
1999

- - - -

Legionellosis, trade fair - Belgium: alert 19991114.2028  
Legionellosis, prisoners - Germany (02) 19991017.1851  
Legionellosis - USA (Pennsylvania) 19990918.1675  
Legionellosis - Australia (Victoria) 19990801.1310  
Legionellosis - Australia 19990801.1309  
Legionellosis, flower show - Netherlands (09) 19990404.0545]

.....ll/pg/dk

-----  
Date: Wed, 28 Aug 2002 22:41:22 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu>  
Subject: PRO/EDR> Legionellosis update: 2002 (02)

LEGIONELLOSIS UPDATE: 2002 (03)

\*\*\*\*\*

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

In this issue:  
[1] Spain (Catalonia)  
[2] UK (England)  
\*\*\*\*\*

[1] Spain (Catalonia)  
Date: 27 Aug 2002  
From: ProMED-mail <promed@promedmail.org>  
Source: People's Daily (China) 27 Aug 2002 [edited]  
<[http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/200208/27/eng20020827\\_102168.shtml](http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/200208/27/eng20020827_102168.shtml)>

#### Over 120 Spaniards Infected with Legionnaires' Disease

-----

The outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in Matara, Catalonia, Mon 26 Aug 2002, produced 3 new cases, bringing the number of infected people to 124, sanitary authorities said. In Matara alone, 104 persons so far have been infected with the *Legionella pneumophila* bacterium that produces pneumonia.

An 83-year-old woman and a 49-year-old man have died. On Fri 23 Aug 2002, sanitary authorities decided to close the Cortes and Graena municipal tourist attraction in southern Granada, Andalucia, after finding a Legionnaires' disease case there. It will remain closed for 15 days.

\*\*\*\*\*

[2] UK (England)  
Date: Sun 25 Aug 2002 05:15 GMT  
From: Padmanabhan Badrinath <badrishanthi@hotmail.com>  
Source: BBC News Sunday 25 August 2002 [edited]  
<<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/2215236.stm>>

#### UK Officials probe new disease outbreak

-----

Officials are still trying to find the source of a Legionnaires' disease outbreak that has affected 6 people. In the Black Country outbreak 3 new cases were confirmed Sat 24 Aug 2002, taking the total to 6.

A man in his 50s was described as seriously ill, while another man in his 40s and a woman are responding well to treatment. Earlier, 3 women had been diagnosed as suffering from the illness. Officials think there could be more cases to come. "This is certainly not like the Barrow-in-Furness cases and seems to be limited," said a Sandwell hospital spokeswoman. The West

Midlands outbreak follows Britain's biggest ever in Cumbria (in which 4 people died) and another in Bedfordshire.

Environmental health officers have spent the weekend checking 40 cooling systems in the borough of Sandwell to try to isolate the source of the outbreak. Dr John Middleton, Sandwell's director of public health, said other cases of the disease could come to light in the next few days. He said: "I think it's possible that people have already been exposed at the same time as the ladies that we knew about. It would not be a surprise if other cases were diagnosed."

Of the first 3 women patients who were admitted to hospital, one has been released and the other 2 are said to be recovering well. All the cases are from the Oldbury and Smethwick areas of the West Midlands, and this is where the inquiry is focusing.

ProMED-mail  
<promed@promedmail.org>