New CDC Video Resources: Investigating Legionnaires’ Disease Outbreaks

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Legionnaires’ Disease Is Increasing in the U.S.

- A severe pneumonia caused by *Legionella* infection
- It often requires treatment in a hospital
  - 8,000–18,000 hospitalizations/year
  - Fatal in up to 30% of cases
- Not spread from person to person
  - Bacteria are inhaled in small droplets of aerosolized water
- Outbreaks often associated with hotels, hospitals, cruise ships
Legionnaires’ Disease Outbreaks

- State and local health departments investigate
- **Goal:** Identify source of infection
  - Implement control measures to remove *Legionella* from the water
- **Environmental aspect of investigations present unique challenges**
New Online Toolkit
FOR STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

- Written guidance
- Modifiable questionnaires
- Sampling protocol
- Educational videos
  - *Legionella* ecology
  - Conducting an environmental assessment
  - Making a sampling plan
  - Sampling potable water, cooling towers, spas, and fountains

[www.cdc.gov/legionella/outbreak-toolkit](http://www.cdc.gov/legionella/outbreak-toolkit)
Promotion Plan

- **State and local health departments**
  - ASTHO, CSTE, NACCHO, NPHIC
  - Both environmental and epi

- **Laboratories**
  - APHL
  - ELITE-certified labs
Questions?