

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

# Legionnaires' Disease

## KNOW THE FACTS:

Legionnaires' is a type of pneumonia. It is caused by bacteria, and **cannot be spread from one person to another.**

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**It is easily treated with antibiotics,** and most people get better with early treatment.

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**People get sick by breathing in water vapor with the bacteria** (for example, mist from contaminated cooling towers). Window air conditioners are NOT a risk.

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**You're at higher risk if you are aged 50 or older** (especially if you smoke), have chronic lung disease, have a weakened immune system or take medicines that weaken your immune system.

## DON'T WAIT! GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF YOU FEEL SICK.

- If you have fever, chills, muscle aches or cough, get medical attention right away.
- This is especially important if you have a medical condition that affects your breathing or if you are a smoker.
- Tell your health care provider you are concerned about Legionnaires' disease. Your provider may need to do tests to find out if you are sick with Legionnaires' disease or a different infection.

Find more information at  
[nyc.gov/health/legionnaires](https://nyc.gov/health/legionnaires)