

## Legionellosis Health Alert December 5, 2025

### Situational Update

Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) has confirmed seven legionellosis cases in November, which is higher than expected. In the last three years, there has been an average of two cases each month. SCPH is investigating these cases to determine whether there is any common exposure.

Diagnostic work-up for legionellosis typically includes urine antigen tests. While this remains an important tool, SCPH is also requesting additional tests to determine whether there is a common exposure among cases.

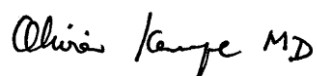
### Actions requested of healthcare systems and clinicians:

1. **Conduct** polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests for legionella for patients with known or suspected legionellosis in addition to urine antigen tests.
2. **Collect** lower respiratory specimens [e.g., sputum, bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL), endotracheal aspirates] for testing at the Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory (SCPHL) **if PCR test is positive** for legionella. **At least 1.0 mL of specimen is needed for further testing.** Collect specimens in sterile containers. Store specimens at 2-5° C if not transported to the SCPHL within a few hours. Specimens should be refrigerated for no longer than seven days or frozen for greater than 40 days.
3. **Report** any known or suspect cases by phone to SCPH at (916) 875-5881 and coordinate testing. Cases should also be reported electronically via CalREDIE Provider Portal or confidential fax at (916) 854-9709. Provide any available medical records for the visit.

### Resources:

1. Legionellosis (CDPH):  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/LegionellosisHealthProfessionals.aspx>

Sincerely,



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Public Health Officer