

PATHOGEN SAFETY DATA SHEET

Legionella pneumophila

CHARACTERISTICS	
Morphology	Gram negative aerobic bacterium of the Legionellaceae family.
Disease	Legionnaires' disease, a severe form of pneumonia. The symptoms of Legionnaire's disease include confusion, headache, diarrhea, abdominal pain, fever, chills, and myalgia as well as a non-productive cough
Zoonosis	None

HEALTH HAZARDS	
Host Range	Humans and animals
Modes of Transmission	Can be transmitted through aerosols and aspiration of contaminated water.
Cience and	Can cause a severe form of pneumonia. Symptoms include confusion, headache, diarrhea, abdominal pain,
Signs and Symptoms	fever, chills, and myalgia as well as a non-productive cough.
Infectious Dose	unknown
Incubation Period	unknown

MEDICAL PRECAUTIONS/TREATMENT	
Prophylaxis	None available
Vaccines	None available
Treatment	Respiratory fluoroquinolones and the newer macrolides are used.
	Monitor for symptoms. Diagnosis can be confirmed via identification of L. pneumophila, often isolated from respiratory secretions, by culturing, immunofluorescent staining, urine antigen tests, PCR,
Surveillance	or serologic tests
MSU Requirements	Report any exposures

LABORATORY HAZARDS	
Laboratory	
Acquired Infections	
(LAIs)	1 case
	Expectorated sputum, lower respiratory specimens,
	pleural fluid, and blood. Other sources include water
	samples from water systems and fresh water sources.
	Cultures, frozen stocks, other samples described in IBC
Sources	protocol.

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES	
	http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/lab-bio/res/psds-
Canadian MSDS:	ftss/index-eng.php
BMBL	https://www.cdc.gov/labs/BMBL.html
CDC	https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html
	https://osp.od.nih.gov/wp-
NIH Guidelines	content/uploads/NIH_Guidelines.pdf

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	Agents that are associated with human disease which is rarely serious and for which preventive or
Risk Group 2	therapeutic interventions are often available.
	For all procedures involving suspected or known
BSL2	infectious specimen or cultures.
ABSL2	For all procedures utilizing infected animals.

SPILL PROCEDURES	
	Notify others working in the lab. Remove PPE and don new PPE. Cover area of the spill with absorbent material and add fresh 1:10 bleach:water. Allow 20 minutes (or as directed) of contact time. After 20
Small	minutes, cleanup and dispose of materials.
	 Immediately notify all personnel in the lab and clear all personnel from the area. Remove any contaminated PPE/clothing and leave the lab. Secure the area by locking doors, posting signage and guarding the area to keep people out of the space.
	For assistance, contact MSU's Biosafety Officer (406- 994-6733) or Safety and Risk Management (406-994-
Large	2711).

EXPOSURE PROCEDURES	
	Flush eyes, mouth, or nose for 5 minutes at eyewash
Mucous membrane	station.
Other Exposures	Wash area with soap and water for 5 minutes.
	Immediately report incident to supervisor, complete
	a First Report of Injury form, and submit to Safety
Reporting	and Risk Management.
	During business hours:
	Bridger Occupational Health 3406 Laramie Drive
	Weekdays 8am -6pm. Weekends 9am-5pm
	After business hours:
	Bozeman Deaconess Hospital Emergency Room
Medical Follow-up	915 Highland Blvd
weater onow-up	

VIABILITY	
	Susceptible to 1:10 bleach:water, 70 % ethanol and
Disinfection	formaldehyde.
	Inactivated by moist heat (15 minutes at 121°C) and
Inactivation	dry heat (1 hour at 170°C).
	Is found naturally in most fresh water sources,
	including lakes, ponds and rivers. Can survive up to
	120 days in distilled water and 41E days in tan

Survival Outside Host water.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	
Minimum PPE Requirements	Lab coat, disposable gloves, safety glasses, closed toed shoes, long pants
Additional Precautions	Additional PPE may be required depending on lab specific SOPs and IBC Protocol.