

1902
23/6/2022

THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

J(A) – 39933/2020

Kochi-682 031
Dated 22.06.2022

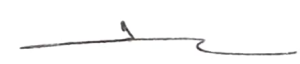
NOTICE

Sub: Spreading of Legionnaires disease- Report from District Medical Officer(Health), Ernakulam - reg.

Ref: Letter No.C6 – 6085/2022 received from the DMO(Health), Ernakulam.

The District Medical Officer (Health), Ernakulam, vide letter referred to above, has informed about the mode of transmission, signs & symptoms, incubation period and prevention of Legionnaires disease. The Honourable the Chief Justice has directed to circulate the letter among the Hon'ble Judges and other stake holders to create awareness about the spreading of Legionnaires disease. Accordingly, the above mentioned letter is attached herewith for information.

(By Order)


P.Krishna Kumar
Registrar General

Encl: As above

To

The Advocate-General, Ernakulam.
The Director General of Prosecutions & State Public Prosecutor, Ernakulam.
The Additional Advocate-General, Ernakulam (2)
The Additional Director General of Prosecutions, Ernakulam
The President, Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, Ernakulam
The Vice-Presidents, Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, Ernakulam (2).
The State Attorney, Advocate-General's Office, Ernakulam.
✓ The Secretary, Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, Ernakulam.
The President, Kerala High Court Senior Advocates' Association, Ernakulam.
The General Secretary, Kerala High Court Senior Advocates' Association, Ernakulam.
The Secretary, Indian Law Institute, Kerala, Ernakulam

[P.T.O]



105877/2022

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICE OF HEALTH, ERNAKULAM

PARK AVENUE, ERNAKULAM - 682011

☎ 0484 - 2360802 ✉ dmohekmooffice@gmail.com

C6 - 6085/2022

Dated: 29.04.2022

To

The Registrar (Administration)
Hon'ble High Court of Kerala
Ernakulam



Sir,

Sub: DMO(H)- EKM- Spreading of Legionnaires Disease- Detailed
Report Submitting - Reg

Ref: Your letter No. J(A)- 39933/20 dtd.22.03.2022

.....

As per the reference cited above I am here by submitting the below mentioned report regarding the "Spreading of Legionnaires Disease".

Legionella Species are gram negative bacilli with 39 Species and 60 distinct antigenic types.

The most common presentation of Legionella Pneumophilia is acute Pneumonia (Legionnaires). Rare manifestation includes extra pulmonary diseases(eg. Pericarditis and endocarditis) less often, the disease presents as non pneumonic , epidemic, influenza like illness called Pontiac fever.

Legionella bacteria are found naturally in fresh water, environment like lakes and streams. They grow and spread in human made building water systems like shower heads and sink faucets, cooling towers (Coolers), hot tubs, decorative fountains

Home air Conditioning and Car air Conditioning units do not use water to cool air so there are not a risk for Legionella growth however Legionella can grow in the wind shield wiper, fluid tank of a vehicle when the tank is filled with water.

Mode of Transmission

Legionella grows and multiples in building water system. Water containing Legionella can spread in droplets. Potable water is the most important source of Legionella

People at Risk

General population are fairly resistant to infection. Elderly (Above 50 years) smokers People with chronic lung diseases like COPD emphysema weak immune system, people on chemotherapy or immune suppressants. Hospitalized patients requiring intubation ventilator assistance and respiratory therapy are at risk of contracting disease.

Signs and symptoms

Cough and shortness of breath, fever, Muscle ache, headache are the common symptoms reported. Rare symptoms include diarrhoea nausea and confusion. Pontiac fever includes infection primarily fever and muscle ache.

Incubation Period

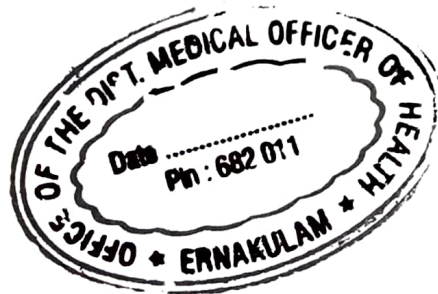
2-14 days

Prevention

Key to prevention is to reduce the risk of legionella growth. Water treatment methods to prevent the growth of legionella includes thermal management hyper chlorination copper silver ionization etc.

Air conditioner

Do not use water to cool air. Hence there is no risk of Legionnaires in rooms using AC. But Air cooler is at a risk of spreading Legionnaires.



Your's Faithfully


District Medical Officer (Health)
Ernakulam

Copy to :

File / Stock File