

Water management programs for healthcare facilities



“All healthcare facilities should have a *Legionella* water management plan.”
—Centers for Disease Control and/ Prevention (CDC)

Program elements

1. Establish a water management program team.

2. Describe the building water systems using text and flow diagrams.

3. Identify areas where *Legionella* could grow and spread.

4. Decide where control measures should be applied and how to monitor them.

5. Establish ways to intervene when control limits are not met.

6. Make sure the program is running as designed and is effective.

7. Document and communicate all the activities.

↻ Continuous program review

Including, for example, Patient Care areas:

- Patient rooms
- Intensive care units
- Respiratory therapy areas
- Bone marrow transplant units
- Dialysis areas
- Hydrotherapy areas
- Oncology floors

Devices

- Heater-coolers
- Respiratory therapy equipment
- Humidifiers
- Ice machines

Clinical Support areas

- Dietary
- Central Supply

Verification of activities

Validation through environmental testing

Source: Adapted from “Developing a *Legionella* Water Management Program.” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). 2016:21,23.