

Legionella pneumophila testing options



Background

ASHRAE Standard 188P, "Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems," Appendix C guidelines recommend, "When testing of environmental water samples is utilized, it should be by a laboratory with demonstrated proficiency in the subject method, such as may be evidenced by certification by a national, regional, or local government agency or by an accredited non-governmental organization (NGO)."

The following are sources for identifying laboratories that offer *Legionella* testing for routine monitoring in conjunction with water management plans, such as those required by the June 2017 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS) policy memorandum mandating healthcare facilities to reduce their *Legionella* risk. Ask these laboratories whether they test specifically for *Legionella pneumophila*, the primary causative agent of Legionnaires' disease.



TNI-accredited laboratories

Laboratories accredited to The NELAC Institute (TNI) standards may include *Legionella pneumophila* culture testing with the Legiolert® Test on their scope of accreditation.

EMLAP-accredited laboratories

Laboratories accredited through the American Industrial Hygiene Association's (AIHA) Environmental Microbiology Laboratory Accreditation Program (EMLAP) may choose to include *Legionella* in their fields of testing, using the Legiolert Test method. A list of EMLAP-accredited laboratories is available [here](#).

ISO 17025-accredited laboratories

Laboratories accredited to ISO 17025:2005 may include *Legionella* culture testing with the Legiolert Test on their scope of accreditation.

Testing with the Legiolert Test

For information on the procedure any laboratory can use to test for *Legionella pneumophila* with the Legiolert Test, an easy, accurate culture-method that provides a confirmed result in 7 days, please visit idexx.com/water/products/legiolert.html or click [here](#).