

Occupational Hygiene Safety Consultants

Asbestos Consultants
Noise Exposure Assessments
Legionella & Water Hygiene Services
Indoor Air Quality & Workplace Exposure

Legionella Management In Care Homes Synopsis CQC & HTM04-01 Compliance





How do I ensure my care home is managing the risk from Legionella?

What is Legionella?

Legionnaires' disease is a potentially fatal form of pneumonia. Water systems that have the right environmental conditions could potentially be a source for legionella bacteria growth. Everyone is susceptible to infection, especially the elderly or those with certain illness conditions. Special consideration should therefore be given to patients or occupants within healthcare premises, residential or care homes.

Why Do I Need a Risk Assessment?

It is a legal duty to carry out an assessment to identify and assess whether there is a risk posed by exposure to legionella from the hot and cold water systems.

The risk from exposure will normally be controlled by measures which do not allow the proliferation of legionella bacteria in the system. Once the risk is identified and assessed, a written control scheme should be prepared, implemented and properly managed for preventing or controlling legionella.

The scheme should specify the various control measures, how to use and carry out those measures, describe the water treatment regimes and the correct operation of the water system. The scheme should be specific and tailored to the system covered by the risk assessment.

“water sampling alone does not ensure compliance with healthcare regulations” (HTM04-01)

Elderly persons or those suffering from illness are at the highest risk from Legionella exposure



Do I Need Training?

Dutyholders including employers or those in control of premises, must ensure the health and safety of their employees or others who may be affected by their undertaking. They must take suitable precautions to prevent or control the risk of exposure to legionella.

The responsible person (dutyholder) appointed to implement the control measures and strategies should be suitably informed, instructed and trained and their suitability assessed.

To learn more about legionella management within healthcare environments click [here](#) to listen to our free audio training presentation.

Key Steps to Compliance

The following steps outline the key actions your organisation should take to ensure you comply with the appropriate regulations and have peace of mind in relation to legionella management.

1. Appoint a responsible person within the organisation to manage the risk posed by legionella.
2. Develop a written scheme defining how the risk from legionella exposure will be managed.
3. Commission a legionella risk assessment survey and ensure this is regularly reviewed.
4. Ensure responsible persons are suitably trained.

For further information and a copy of the detailed HTM04-01 and HSE HSG274 guidance:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/hsg274part2.pdf>

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/140105/Health_Technical_Memorandum_04-01_Adendum.pdf



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