



Legionella Testing



The ALS Winnipeg is CALA accredited and CDC Elite certified for Legionella analysis using ISO 11731 Methodology.

Legionella bacteria are known pathogens that are transmitted by inhalation of contaminated aerosols. Exposure to certain species of Legionella can lead to one of two respiratory conditions requiring medical attention: Legionellosis can take the form of the serious illness known as Legionnaires' disease or the less serious Pontiac fever. Monitoring for the presence of Legionella in water supplies is an emerging issue in North America due to recent and increasingly frequent outbreaks of these illnesses. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) has developed guidelines (Standard 188) to assist building and systems operators with this task.

Natural sources of Legionella include freshwater ponds and creeks, but populations are generally low. Water systems that have stagnant points, corrosion, biofilm or sediment, provide a suitable environment for the growth and amplification of Legionella populations. This organism is capable of surviving a wide range of temperatures and can recolonize within months after disinfection.

Common sources include cooling towers, domestic hot-water systems, fountains, and other aerosol-generating devices that tap into a public water supply. For more information on Legionella Bacteria and ASHRAE Standard 188, Visit: canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/legionella and ashrae.org

Sampling Requirements

- We will ship you 1L sterile bottles which contain sodium thiosulphate as a neutralizing agent for treated water.
- Samples should be kept cool but not frozen (less than 10 degrees Celsius) and shipped to the lab as soon as possible.
- The hold time is 48 hours from sample collection.

Available Analysis

- Enumeration: Colony counts are reported for all Legionellae.

Reporting time is up to 14 days from receipt of samples with negative results possibly available sooner.

Call us and speak with one of our Project Managers to see how we can assist with your testing requirements.

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