



Reporting Criteria of Legionellosis

(1) Definition

Infectious diseases attributable to infection with genus *Legionella* (*L. pneumophila*, etc)

(2) Clinical Symptoms

- *Legionella* pneumonia and Pontiac fever are two major disease types. Occasionally, abdominal pain, diarrhea, disturbance of consciousness and gait disorder may occur. *Legionella* pneumonia cannot be differentiated from other pneumonia based solely on clinical pictures.
- Fulminant pneumonia and multiple organ failure may occur in immunocompromized individuals.
- Upon notification, cases associated with pneumonia and/or multiple organ failure should be reported as “pneumonia” type and other cases as “Pontiac fever” type.

(3) Criteria of notification

- a) **“Patient (definitive diagnosis)”**: A physician who examined a person having clinical signs listed in (2), suspected legionellosis based on clinical signs/findings, and made diagnosis of legionellosis based on findings derived from the laboratory testing as described in the left side column of the Table below must notify according to the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

The specimen for the laboratory tests should correspond to the laboratory diagnosis chosen from the list on the right side column of the Table below.

- b) **“Asymptomatic carrier”**: A physician who examined a person having none of the clinical signs listed in (2) but diagnosed the a person as an legionella asymptomatic carrier based on findings of laboratory tests listed on the left side column of the Table below must notify according to the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

The specimen for the laboratory tests should correspond to the laboratory diagnosis chosen from the list on the right side column of the Table below.

- c) **“Dead body of the infected”**: A physician who inspected a dead body having clinical signs listed in (2), suspected legionellosis based on clinical signs and findings, and diagnosed that the death was caused by legionellosis based on findings derived from the laboratory diagnosis listed on the left side column of the Table below must notify according to the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

Specimen for the laboratory tests should correspond to the laboratory diagnosis chosen from the list on the right side column of the Table below.

- d) **“Dead body of the individual suspected of *Legionella* infection”**: A physician who examined a dead body of an individual who had characteristics of legionellosis, and suspected that the death was caused by *Legionella* must notify according to the Law, Article 12, paragraph 1.

Laboratory tests	Specimens for laboratory tests
Detection of pathogens by isolation and identification	Lung tissues, sputum, pleural effusion, blood, specimens from the other normally aseptic sites, respiratory tract secretion
Detection of antigens of pathogens by immunofluorescent antibody method	
Detection of antigens of pathogens by enzyme-linked antibody method or immunochromatography	Urine
Detection of bacterial DNA by PCR method	Lung tissues, sputum, pleural effusion, blood, specimens from the other normally aseptic sites, respiratory tract secretion, and urine
Detection of antibody by indirect immunofluorescent antibody method or microplate agglutination test (convert to positive or significant increase of antibody titer in paired sera, where at least one serum specimen should have a titer higher than 1:128; in case of single specimens, the titer should be above 1:256)	Serum