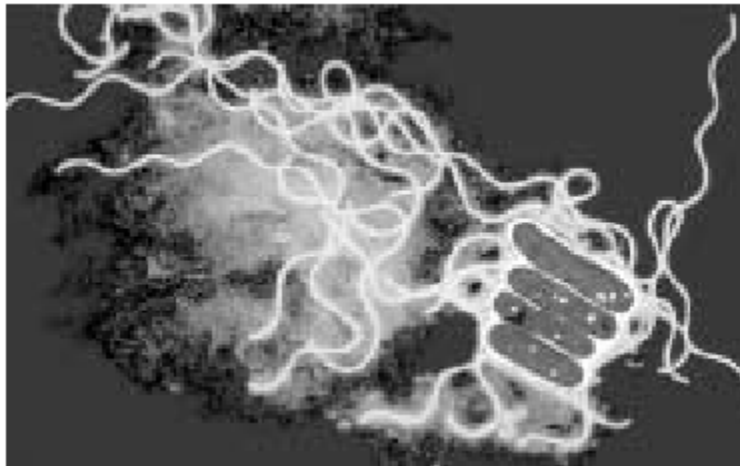


# Legionella Testing & the Approved Code of Practice L8

*The Health & Safety Executives (HSE)  
Approved Code of Practice & Guidance (ACoP)  
"Legionnaires' disease: Control of legionella  
bacteria in water systems" (L8) recommends  
routine testing for Legionella bacteria,*



## Legionella Testing

The UK's Health and Safety Executives (HSE) Approved Code of Practice and Guidance (ACoP) "Legionnaires' disease: Control of legionella bacteria in water systems" (L8) recommends that routine testing for legionella bacteria in wet cooling systems be carried out at least quarterly, and more frequently when a system is being commissioned, or if the bacteria has been identified on a previous occasion. For hot water systems such testing is only recommended in particular circumstances, which are as follows:

where water temperatures are reduced as a consequence of using alternative biocide treatments. Sampling should be done initially on a monthly basis, with the interval increased depending on the level of confidence in control measures;

in systems where the control parameters (whether temperature or biocides) are not being achieved (frequency as required);

when an outbreak is suspected or has been identified (frequency as required);

possibly in hospital wards for immunologically suppressed patients.

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## Additional Information & Expert Assistance

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