

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of several thick, overlapping ribbons in shades of blue and green, swirling and looping around each other.

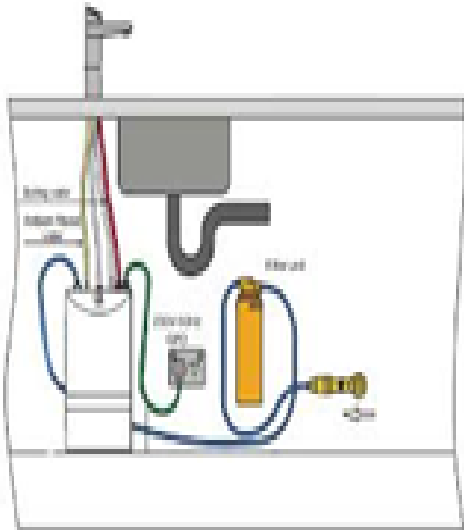
Central Adelaide Local Health Network

**What am I really drinking in my soup of hot
or cold water– a microbiome conundrum?**

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What are they?

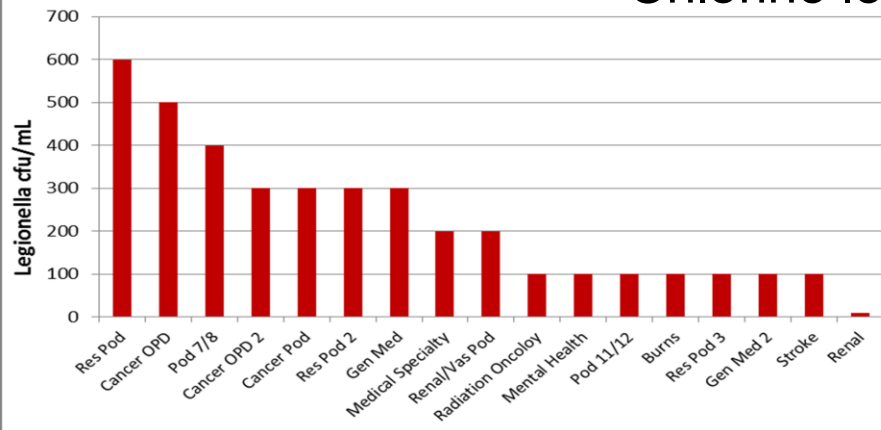
- > Water heating/cooling systems for potable water
- > Provide instant access to either chilled water or boiling hot water, dependent on the person's needs.
- Risk of legionella
 - chilled water at 4 degrees and
 - hot water at above 90 degrees < that risk



Findings

- We detected, *Legionella species* (not *L. pneumophila*)
- Counts ranging between a 100 to 600 cfu/mL from the cold water outlet in 43% (17/40) of the systems tested (inpatient units).

Chlorine levels were all within the normal limits.



Outcomes

- All systems were re-sanitised
- Filters - non-carbon 0.2 micron or 0.5 micro
- Hoses adjusted to the shortest length & separated
 - Possible to reduce stagnant water
 - Fitted with a kick back water return mechanism
- Ventilation changes into the cupboard
- All the chilled water outlets in -clinical and staff areas - disabled
- Mains water at those units & 200 water outlets tested for Legionella
- Memo sent to all staff re drinking water at nRAH.





Lessons Learned

- > Review design options
- > Determine best practice for installation
- > Have a commissioning plan and
- > Ensure testing is done, including routine and ongoing maintenance
- > Dream...that ICP are engaged in any design for new equipment – we may be able to design it out before it creates a problem!!!



Government of South Australia

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