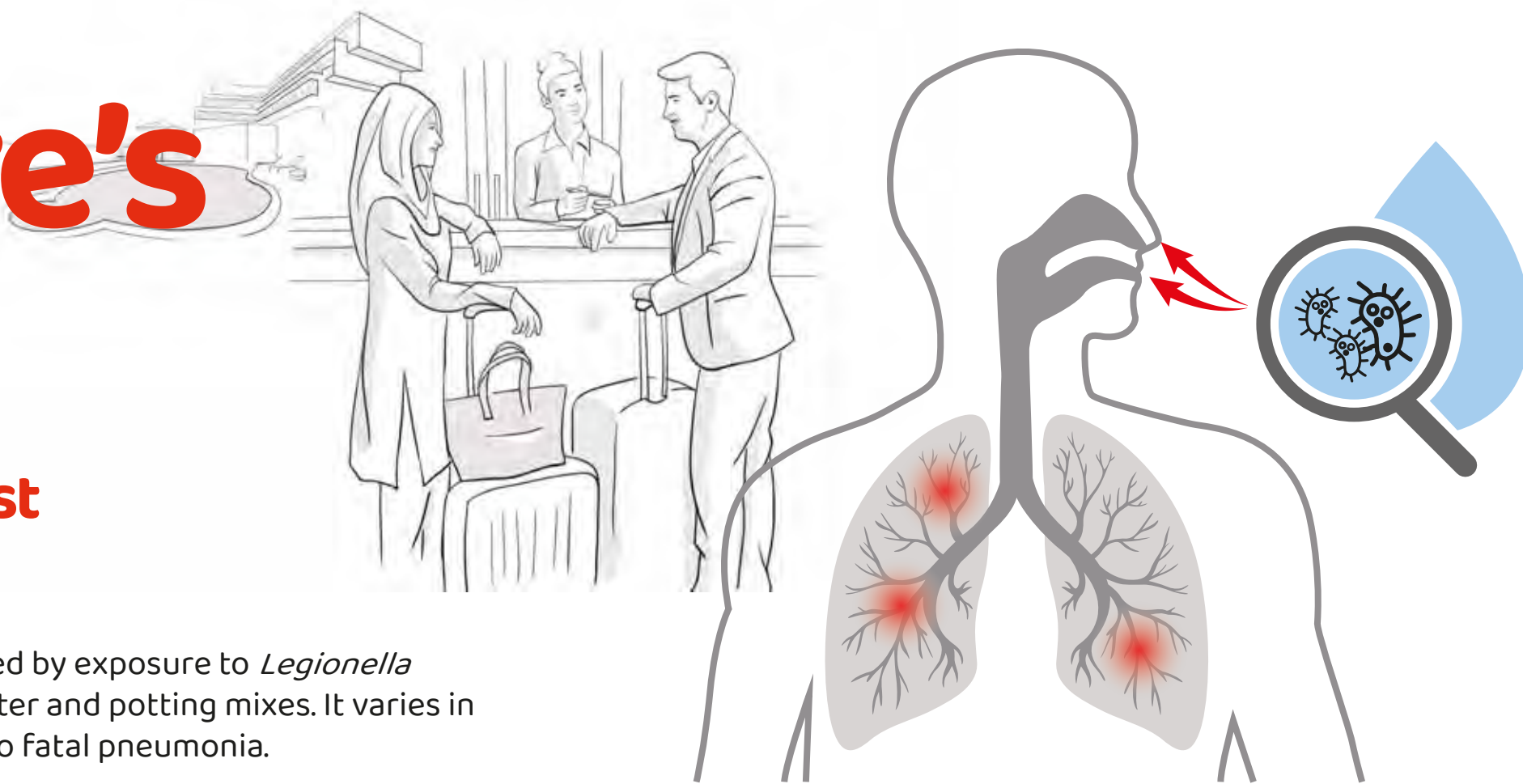


Legionnaire's disease

Information for hotels and tourist accommodations

Sources of infection

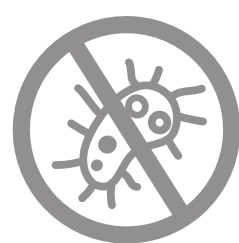
Legionnaire is caused by exposure to *Legionella* species found in water and potting mixes. It varies in severity from mild to fatal pneumonia.



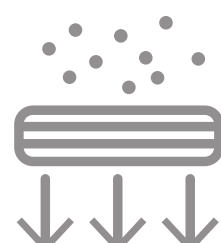
Types of exposure & prevention

The bacteria is found worldwide in many different aquatic environments, such as cooling towers, water systems in hotels, homes, ships and factories, respiratory therapy equipment, fountains, misting devices, and spa pools.

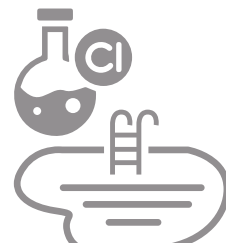
Prevent in hotels, on ships and in large buildings by:



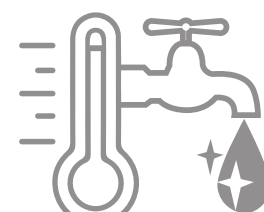
Maintaining cooling devices, regularly cleaning and disinfecting of cooling towers along with frequent addition of biocides



Installing of drift eliminators



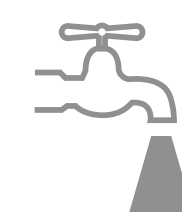
Adding biocide such as chlorine in a spa pool; draining and cleaning the whole system weekly



Keeping hot and cold water systems clean



Keeping hot water above 50 °C and cold water below 20 °C



Reducing stagnation by flushing unused taps every week

Symptoms

Severity of disease ranges from a mild cough to a rapidly fatal pneumonia.

Mild Symptoms:



Mild cough



Headache



Loss of appetite



Fever



Malaise



Lethargy

SEVERE:



50% of patients can have phlegm, blood-streaked phlegm or haemoptysis

Actions to take in case of symptoms:



In case of symptoms, especially in the case of exposure to aquatic environments, immediately seek medical advice.