

Major Changes in the Code of Practice for Prevention of Legionnaires' Disease (2016 Edition)

Old clause (2012)	New clause (2016)	Major Changes in CoP (PLD) 2016 edition
Title	Title	To revise the Chinese translation of the Prevention of Legionnaires' Disease from 預防退伍軍人病症 as 預防退伍軍人病
Foreword	Foreword	General updates in the context
Context	Context	To replace "Legionella" as "legionella" in the context
		To replace "shall" to "should" in the context
Section 2 – Medical Aspects		
2.1	2.1	To revise the 1 st sentence as "LD is a type of bacterial pneumonia caused by legionella"
2.5	2.5	To add the sentence "Cases associated with decorative water fountains, home respiratory therapy devices, humidifiers and mist machines have also been reported."
2.8 (d)	2.8 (d)	To delete the sentence "3 times more susceptible than females"
Section 3 – The Hong Kong Situation		
3.4	3.4	To delete Annex 1 "Form 2 of the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance, Cap. 599", which can be downloaded from the CHP website.
3.5	3.5	To update the no. of reported LD cases between 1994 and 2015 to 313 and add no. of LD cases from years 2012 to 2015 in Table 1.
3.6	3.6	To delete Annex 2 "Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance, Cap. 509 Notification of Occupational Diseases", which can be downloaded from the Labour Department website.
Section 4 - Guidelines on Design, Operation and Maintenance of Water-Using Apparatus		
4.2.2.2 (c)	4.2.2.2 (c)	To amend as "Bleed-off control is preferred to be performed automatically by conductivity sensor. Intermittent discharge by timer control or manually operated drain valve is not preferred unless automatic bleed-off is not practicable" to match with the recommendation in the latest CoP for Fresh Water Cooling Towers published by EMSD.
4.3.1 (d)	4.3.1 (d)	To add wordings "a suitable trap, such as anti-syphonage trap".
4.3.3 (d)	4.3.3 (d)	To add wordings "to be purged prior to start-up".
4.4.1, 4.4.1.1 and 4.4.1.2	4.4.1, 4.4.1.1 and 4.4.1.2	To change the hot water temperatures of centralised hot water supply system from "35°C to 50°C" to "35°C to 55°C".
4.4.1.1 (a)	4.4.1.1 (a)	To add "at least 50°C within one minute of running the water" as recommended in S4.3.5.1b of BS 8558:2015.
4.4.1.1 (a)	4.4.1.1 (a)	To add "at least 55°C in high-risk areas for healthcare premises (such as hospitals) within one minute of running the water" as recommended in S4.3.31.2.2.3 of BS 8558:2015.
4.4.1.1 (h) (i)	4.4.1.1 (g) (i)	To revise "hot water supply temperature changes from 60°C to 50 °C or 55°C."
N/A	4.4.1.2 (e)	To add a new clause (iv) "Strainers in water taps and shower heads should be removed and cleaned in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, otherwise they should be removed quarterly for cleaning" as per recommendation in the housekeeping guidelines.

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N/A	4.4.1.2 (v)	To add a new clause (v) "Installation of domestic water filters is not recommended due to potential health hazards if not properly maintained. If domestic water filters are installed, they should be cleaned or changed regularly in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations" as per WSD's recommendation in the housekeeping guidelines
4.5.1 (f)	4.5.1 (f)	To update WSD's guidelines for cleansing and disinfection of fresh water inside services to include WSD's latest Circular Letter No. 1/2015 and No. 5/2015 to supplement the existing Circular Letter No. 2/2012.
4.5.2 (c)	4.5.2 (c)	To add footnote "For measures to reduce risk of lead from water pipework, please refer to WSD's leaflet "Water Use Tips: How to reduce the risk of lead intake". (http://www.wsd.gov.hk)"
N/A	4.5.2 (f)	To add a new clause (iv) "Strainers in water taps and shower heads should be removed and cleaned in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, otherwise they should be removed quarterly for cleaning" as per recommendation in the housekeeping guidelines.
N/A	4.5.2 (g)	To add a new clause (v) "Installation of domestic water filters is not recommended due to potential health hazards if not properly maintained. If domestic water filters are installed, they should be cleaned or changed regularly in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations" as per WSD's recommendation in the housekeeping guidelines
4.7.3	4.7.3	To delete the paragraph of the outdated document on "Guidelines on management of commercial spa pools" published by CHP.
4.8.2	4.8.2	To add "or use sterile/distilled/boiled water to suit applications.
4.8.3	4.8.3	To add CHP's current advice and practice for using sterile water in home respiratory equipment.
Section 5 - Collection of Water Samples for Testing Legionella, Heterotrophic Colony Count (HCC), and Other Water Quality Parameters		
5.1 to 5.3	5.1 and 5.2	To separate into two sections on collection of water samples for (s5.1) cooling tower and (s5.2) other water-using apparatus for clarity. To include regular testing for legionella in cold/hot water systems in buildings in the community is generally not required. The WHO holds the view that the most important factors concerning control of legionella proliferation are appropriate design, control of risk factors and maintenance of individual systems. Please refer to PLDC's recommendation in 2012 press release (http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201202/08/P201202080457.htm).
Section 7 - Design, Operation and Maintenance Records		
7.2	7.2 (vi)	To add new clause "report on defects/irregularities of the system."
N/A	7.3	To add new clause "Arrange regular inspection of plumbing system on a quarterly basis and keep proper records of all activities of inspections, repairs, cleaning, draining/purging, and follow-up actions on the incidents of the plumbing system."
Section 8 - Handling Garden Soils, Composts and Potting Mixes		
8.3	8.3	To add new clauses on precautions to be taken when handling garden soils, composts and potting mixes : (d) Open composted potting mixes slowly and direct the opening away from the face. (e) Gently water gardens and composts using low pressure. (g) Avoid working in poorly ventilated places such as enclosed greenhouses. (h) Wet the soil to reduce dust when potting plants.

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Section 9 - References		
		<p>To delete obsoleted and add/update standards and references:</p> <p>To delete Ref. [2] Guidelines for the Control of LD, Department of Human Services, Victoria, Australia, 1999</p> <p>To replace BS6700:2006 by [12] BS 8558:2015 Guide to the design, installation, testing and maintenance of services supplying water for domestic use within buildings and their curtilages – Complementary guidance to BS EN 806, The British Standards Institution, UK, 2015</p>
Annex		
Annex 1 and 2	N/A	To delete Annex 1 & 2 - Refer to CHP & Labour Dept's webpages
Figures		
Figures 1 to 10	Figures 1 to 10	To have general updates in all figures