

Appendix D: Physician Information: Legionellosis, Prevention and Control

Definitions:

- Immunocompromised Patients: For the purposes of Legionella acquisition, patients of known high risk meeting the following criteria will be considered immunocompromised.
- Only the following patients shall have water restrictions.
 - Patients who have undergone solid organ transplantation
 - Patients who have received a bone marrow transplant within the past year
 - Patients receiving cancer chemotherapy currently, or who have received it within the past month
 - Patients receiving anti-rejection drugs (cyclosporin, azathioprine, ect)
 - Patients who have a white blood cell count <1000/mm³ and/or an absolute neutrophil count <500/mm³ for 7 days or more
 - Patients on the NICU
 - Patients who have received high doses of glucocorticosteroid therapy for at least 1 month duration.
- The following are examples of high adult doses:
 - Dexamethasone 3 mg daily
 - Cortisone 100 mg daily
 - Hydrocortisone 80 mg daily
 - Prednisone 20 mg daily
- The following are examples of high pediatric doses:
 - Dexamethasone 0.15 mg/kg/day
 - Cortisone 5 mg/kg/day
 - Hydrocortisone 4 mg/kg/day
 - Prednisone 0.8 mg/kg/day

Responsibilities

- Physicians shall consider Legionella disease as a possible cause of illness in patients who have compatible signs and symptoms. A urine antigen and/or culture of sputum/respiratory secretions specifically requesting *Legionella sp.* is recommended.