



Legionnaires' Disease

Appendix I:A. Serogroups and Subtypes

Closely related microorganisms that share common, measurable surface components are said to belong to a serogroup. Each serogroup of *L. pneumophila* contains further subtypes that have different surface structures on the cell membrane and can be distinguished by special tests.

- Evidence indicates that some *L. pneumophila* serogroups are more virulent than others.
- *L. pneumophila* serogroup 1 is the most frequently identified form of the bacterium isolated from patients with Legionnaires' disease, although other serogroups and subtypes of the bacterium are frequently isolated from water sources.
- Serogroups 4 and 6 are the second and third types most frequently linked with Legionnaires' disease.

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