

CMS PATHOGENS PANEL



The CMS Pathogens Panel has been developed for healthcare facilities to satisfy the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' directive for *Risk Management of Facility Water Systems*. The Panel evaluates potential for exposure to the following six waterborne pathogens:

<i>Legionella</i>	A pathogenic group of bacteria causing a pneumonia-type illness called Legionnaires' disease and a mild flu-like illness called Pontiac fever.
<i>Pseudomonas Aeruginosa</i>	A bacterium that can be found in various types of moist environments. This opportunistic pathogen is commonly associated with hospital-acquired infection, most notably in immunocompromised individuals.
<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>	A bacterial pathogen of most concern in the hospital setting. This organism is inherently resistant to multiple antimicrobial agents. Contaminated water can transmit the organism through indwelling catheters and respiratory therapy equipment to susceptible patients causing infection.
<i>Acinetobacter</i> Species	Bacteria generally considered nonpathogenic to healthy individuals. However, at least 23 species have been associated with human disease.
<i>Burkholderia Cepacia</i>	A bacterium that may infect respiratory tract of patients with cystic fibrosis or bronchiectasis. Skin and soft tissue infections, surgical wound infections, central venous catheter and urinary tract infections have all been reported in healthcare settings. This bacterium is often naturally resistant to common antibiotics.
<i>Non-tuberculosis Mycobacteria</i>	Bacteria which typically affects individuals with pre-existing conditions. The most common infections are pneumonia and gastrointestinal disease caused by <i>M. avium</i> and <i>M. intracellulare</i> . Non-immunosuppressed individuals can also acquire NTM infections.