

# BUILDING WATER HEALTH PROGRAMS

For Hospitals and Health Care Facilities



## Read Between The Plans

The U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Joint Commission require hospitals, long-term care centers and skilled nursing homes to develop water safety plans (WSPs) to prevent pathogenic bacteria (such as those that cause Legionnaires' disease) from developing in building water systems.

In most cases, outbreaks of Legionnaires' disease can be prevented with more effective water management. The challenge for health care facilities is assessing all water systems and incorporating all facets of the facility water management team.

While WSPs have proven to be effective, the success of a WSP can be limited if it is not comprehensive and site-specific.

- > WSPs typically focus mainly on a building's water utility system.
- WSPs based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) toolkit tend to work off basic descriptions of a facility.
- Control measures for medical devices are absent from most WSPs.



## **ACCOMPLISH MORE**

A WSP developed by NSF Health Sciences' building water health team goes further than other preventative programs because it is tailored to the specific design and demands of your hospital or health care facility. We create WSPs with specific, detailed SOPs for every water system and water-using medical device that poses a risk to patients and staff, driving consistent management of risk across your entire facility and health care portfolio.

The depth of our services can lead to better risk analysis, complete descriptions of all water systems, greater compliance with regulations and improved management procedures.

## **WE PROVIDE:**



## **Gap Assessments of Existing Water Safety Plans**

We evaluate your current plan to ensure all water systems are properly identified and assessed.



### **Customized Water Safety Plans**

Our customized WSPs provide guidance about implementing and improving control measures, critical limits, monitoring procedures and corrective actions throughout the building water system.



#### **Comprehensive Risk Assessment**

Our risk assessments help you meet and exceed policy and procedural requirements established by CMS for reducing the risk of growth and transmission of *Legionella* and other waterborne pathogens in building water systems.



#### **Risk Management Plans**

Our plans recommend procedures that comply with industry guidance documents such as ASHRAE 188 and the latest regulatory requirements, including CMS QSO-17-30 and Joint Commission standards.



## **GAIN DEEPER INSIGHTS**

A utility system-focused program is incomplete. We evaluate the entire building water system, identifying potential hazards that could affect patients, staff, components and equipment. This includes:







PREMISE PLUMBING



POOLS And Spas



**FOUNTAINS** 



COOLING TOWERS



MEDICAL DEVICES



**ICE MACHINES** 



HUMIDIFIERS

## **OPTIMIZE YOUR WATER SAFETY PLAN**



#### **ALL-ENCOMPASSING**

We analyze every reasonable route of proliferation and transmission for waterborne pathogens in all water systems.



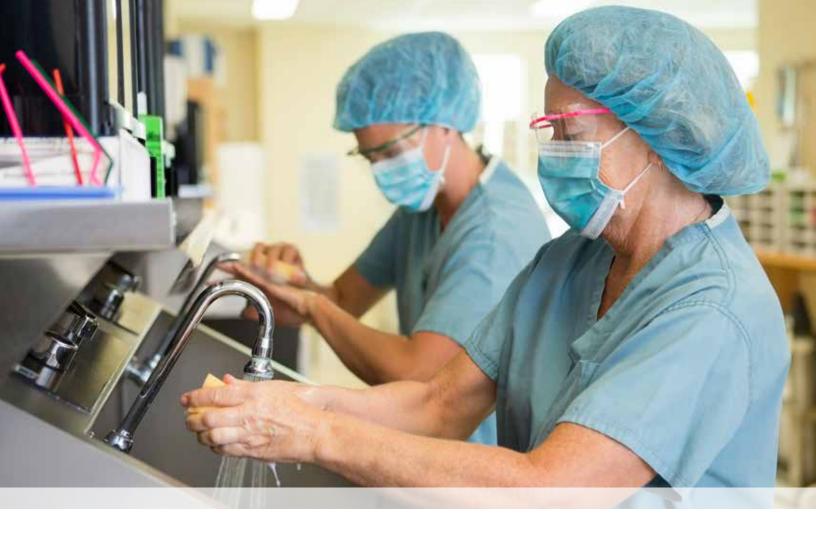
#### **EXPERTISE**

Hospitals and health care facilities can reduce liability and manage risk more effectively by tapping into our many years of experience in developing water safety plans and providing *Legionella* risk assessments for clients all over the world.



#### **EVALUATION**

Our consultants work with facilities—at a minimum—on an annual basis to assess the overall implementation of the plan. During the assessment, we confirm if the control measures are properly verified and validated and troubleshoot gaps in the implementation of the plan. This provides senior management with the assurance that their properties are being proactively managed.



## **CONTACT US**



## **NSF HEALTH SCIENCES**

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