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Squirrel Hill care facility patient has Legionnaires'

By Rick Wills, PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW
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About the writer

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A resident of a long-term care facility in Squirrel Hill has been diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease, health officials said.

The man, who lives at The Commons at Squirrel Hill, is being treated with antibiotics. "This is an isolated case. A single case is not an outbreak," said Guillermo Cole, a spokesman for the Allegheny County Health Department.

There were 104 cases of Legionnaires' disease last year in Allegheny County, he said. Infected people have about a 30 percent chance of dying, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the number of cases has increased 100 percent in the past 10 years.

According to the CDC, the bacteria that cause the disease are found naturally in the environment, usually in water. The nursing home is installing a water control system that should reduce or eliminate the bacteria.

One person recommends this.

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