



Tests are negative for Legionnaires' Disease

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According to the tests results, there is no case of Legionnaires' Disease connected with the indoor pool at Ottumwa Days Inn.

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OTTUMWA, IOWA -- The Ottumwa Health Department has released the results of tests that were performed on the indoor pool at Ottumwa Days Inn: negative for any bacteria, including Legionella.

"We have received word from the hygienic lab that both the swimming pool and the spa tested negative for any sort of bacteria. So the tests that the hygienic lab recommended that we run on those two facilities were Chloroform tests and Pseudomonas tests...and both of those came back negative," said Jody Gates, the Director of the Ottumwa Public Health Department.

On Thursday, June 10, the Iowa Department of Public Health received a complaint that a woman had contracted Legionnaires' Disease from the spa at the Ottumwa Days Inn over Memorial Day weekend. Legionnaires' is a severe bacterial infection that can produce pneumonia.

Tests results have shown there is no case of Legionnaires' Disease connected with the motel.

Health officials tell KTVO that the owner of Ottumwa Days Inn is working to install an automatic chemical feeder with the indoor swimming pool. He will reopen the pool when the equipment is installed.

"The Health Department does intend to conduct periodic samplings at the Days Inn in the foreseeable future. We just want to assure ourselves and the public that everything is going the way it's supposed to and that the water sample tests are coming back correct," Gates said.

The woman who contracted this case of Legionnaires' Disease has died. Officials will not reveal her identity, but it is believed the victim was from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It is still unclear where she contracted the illness.

KTVO will bring you further updates as they become available.

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