

# Legionnaires' outbreak linked to spa at Frankston gym

June 24 2017

An outbreak of Legionnaires' disease which has hospitalised two people has been linked to a spa at a Frankston gym.

Victoria's health authorities on Saturday issued an alert for the Frankston community after two confirmed cases of the potentially lethal form of pneumonia in people who had used the spa at Core24 gym.



A spa at a Frankston gym has been linked to a Legionnaires' outbreak.

A Department of Health and Human Services spokesman said the two were hospitalised on Friday night.

The gym's spa has been shut down and disinfected, and an investigation is

under way.

The rest of the gym remains open and is not deemed dangerous.

Victoria's Deputy Chief Health Officer Dr Brett Sutton said symptoms may not develop for about 10 days after initial contact with the Legionella bacteria.

"People who have been exposed to the potential source could still develop symptoms over the next 10 days," Dr Sutton said.

"Legionnaires' disease causes flu-like symptoms such as headache, fever, chills, muscle aches and pains, followed by respiratory problems and pneumonia often developing over three or four days."

Higher-risk groups for contracting the disease include people over 50, smokers, heavy drinkers, people with diabetes and chronic lung disease, and those with lowered immunity.

The Legionella bacteria is normally spread in fine water and mist.

Between 70 and 80 cases of Legionnaires' disease are recorded in Victoria each year.