Notice to Melrose and Morrisania Residents About Legionnaires' Disease

September 19, 2026

The NYC Health Department is investigating a cluster of Legionnaires' disease in Melrose and Morrisania neighborhoods of the South Bronx (ZIP codes 10451, 10456). Outreach is being expanded to include ZIP codes 10455 and 10459 after cases were identified within a few blocks of the ZIP code 10456, one of two ZIP codes where our investigation continues to focus.

Legionnaires' disease is a type of pneumonia. Symptoms are flu-like and include fever, chills, muscle aches, cough, and shortness of breath.

The risk of contracting Legionnaires' disease is low, but if you live or work in or have visited these ZIP codes in September and have symptoms, see a healthcare provider right away. For help finding a provider, regardless of immigration or insurance status, call **311** or 844-NYC-4NYC (844-692-4692). For up-to-date information, including confirmed case numbers, visit **nyc.gov/legionnaires**.

Cooling towers in the community are the likely source of the *Legionella* bacteria causing this cluster of Legionnaires' disease. Cooling towers are typically found on top of buildings. They control the temperature of cooling systems, such as refrigeration. The cooling towers spray mist that can contain the bacteria into the outside air.

Cooling towers in the area are being tested by the Health Department. Buildings with cooling towers that test positive for the presence of *Legionella* bacteria are being ordered to immediately clean and disinfect their cooling towers.

It is safe for residents in the area to drink tap water, bathe, shower, cook, and use their air conditioner at home.

For more information, or if you have any questions, scan the QR code or visit **nyc.gov/legionnaires**, call **311**, or email the Health Department at **communityaffairs@health.nyc.gov**.