



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**
Alister F. Martin, MD, MPP
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 17, 2026

**STATEMENT FROM NYC HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. ALISTER F. MARTIN ON THE
UPPER EAST SIDE LEGIONNAIRES' DISEASE COMMUNITY CLUSTER**

NEW YORK, NY — New York City Health Commissioner Dr. Alister F. Martin issued the following statement updating New Yorkers on the Legionnaires' disease community cluster investigation on the Upper East Side:

"I am saddened to report that one person has died in connection with the Legionnaires' disease community cluster on the Upper East Side. My deepest condolences are with their loved ones, and out of respect to their personal privacy, we will not be releasing any additional information on the individual.

As of 9 p.m. last night, 67 people have been diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease, and 12 people are hospitalized in association with this cluster. Legionnaires' disease is a type of pneumonia that is deadly, but it can be treated with antibiotics if caught early. That is why it is so important to seek medical attention immediately if you recently visited or live in the affected area and are experiencing flu-like symptoms including fever, chills, muscle aches, and cough. Help finding a provider is available regardless of your immigration or insurance status by calling **311** or 844-NYC-4NYC (844-692-4692).

The NYC Health Department continues to work tirelessly to identify and cut off any source of exposure to *Legionella* bacteria. Seventy-six buildings have been ordered to clean and disinfect cooling towers in the area, and all have confirmed they completed the required remediation. You can find the most up-to-date information about this investigation on the Health Department's [website](#)."

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