

VA



U.S. Department
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News Release

Iowa City VA

Health Care System

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Iowa City VA Issues Statement on Water Safety

Status on water systems at the Iowa City VA Medical Center

“The Iowa City VA Medical Center takes water safety very seriously, and maintains a higher standard of safety than most medical facilities – with more frequent testing and aggressive action taken to prevent contaminants from entering the medical center’s water system.

The water system at the Iowa City VA Medical Center is safe. The main water supply has never been compromised with *Legionella* and there have been no cases of Legionnaire’s Disease reported at the Iowa City VA Medical Center.

In May 2014, monthly testing found positive results for *Legionella* bacteria in small amounts and in isolated locations within the facility, not in its main water supply.

Citing routine testing and mitigation steps, infectious disease experts at the Iowa City VA Health Care system found there was virtually no risk to patients, visitors, or employees. On the contrary, test findings validated that the VA water safety plan is working, and mitigates threats before there is a problem. Positive findings are a routine part of the water testing process.”

A fact sheet on Iowa City VA HCS water system and general information about *Legionella* can be found online at: http://www.iowacity.va.gov/documents/IowaCityVA_LegionellaFacts.pdf

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