

SHOWER-SAFE

Environmentally friendly, sustainable legionella control in showers



Today there are approximately 500 recorded cases of legionnaires' disease annually. However, leading epidemiologists at the Health Protection Agency believe that this figure could be as high as 9,000 per annum. Cases are not identified for many reasons including, subclinical infections, unclassified bacterial pneumonia and unspecified pneumonia organism.

Many of the cases identified are caused by showers and probably the majority of those not identified will be from showers. Showers are the most probable cause because in a well controlled system where the naturally occurring legionella bacteria in the hot water has been killed by the water temperature and it has been too cold for the bacteria to grow in the cold water, the shower mixer valve produces an ideal temperature. If the shower is then not used it allows time for the bacteria to multiply to dangerous levels and the next user finds it easy to breathe in the contaminated water droplets.

Possible Solutions

There are several ways of minimising this risk. The Approved Code of Practice L8 calls for weekly flushing of little used outlets. Some systems have even been flushed daily to try to keep the bacteria at bay but it is only diluting the problem and will not totally eradicate it.

Self purging showers are an automatic way of flushing. However they have the disadvantage that if the shower is used regularly they waste a considerable amount of water.

Shower head filters can be fitted but they are expensive and require changing regularly at great cost.

UV shower head disinfection (Steri Spray) treats the flowing water through the shower. They require regular maintenance to maintain their efficacy and it is conceivable that dirty water on the incoming main, from say a fractured pipe, could cause all the outlets to shut down. They are expensive to install, maintain and run on 24/7 electricity usage.

A New Environmentally Friendly Sustainable Solution

Shower-Safe is a new environmentally friendly, sustainable solution that treats the stagnant water left in the shower after it has been used. It will not contribute to retrograde contamination. It does not waste water or use electricity. It is very simple to install and will last a very long time. In fact if the shower is not used it will last for ever.

Shower-Safe is a very simple retro-fit kit containing silver and copper mesh beads. Half of the beads are put into the shower head and the remainder into the hose. Filter washers are used at the connections to keep the beads in their respective positions. Silver is a biocide and copper gets rid of biofilm. Together they kill the legionella bacteria and other bad bacteria such as pseudomonas etc. It is so simple to fit it takes

just two minutes to fit to a domestic type shower and can be done by any competent person. In fixed copper pipe work the copper beads are not required but additional filter washer support fittings with compression fittings will be required. The kit also contains a water proof label to be fitted to the shower to indicate that Shower-Safe is fitted.



COMPANY DETAILS

Shower-Safe

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www.shower-safe.co.uk