**BACKGROUND**

Legionnaires’ disease, a type of severe pneumonia, is caused by breathing in small droplets of water that contain the bacteria *Legionella*.

In 2017, 13% of Tennessee (TN) legionellosis cases were healthcare-associated. Healthcare facilities are at high risk for Legionella growth and spread.

Proper maintenance and effective water management programs (WMPs) can reduce *Legionella* risk. Increased education and prevention outreach to healthcare facilities in TN is needed.

The Tennessee Hospital Association (THA), Tennessee Healthcare Engineering Association (THEA) and Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) developed the “Legionella Webinar Series” to raise awareness about Legionnaire’s disease and the importance of prevention through WMPs.

**METHODS**

Webinar information was disseminated to THA and THEA membership via E-newsletters and emails, and to regional and local health department staff via email.

The target audience included facility management, infection control, risk management, safety, quality assurance, environmental services and leadership.

Six webinars were conducted between January–June 2019. Webinars were recorded and made available online.

At the series conclusion, registrants were emailed a survey to evaluate attendance, quality/utility, participant/facility information, barriers from having a WMP, and educational opportunities of interest.

**CONCLUSION**

Despite the low response rate to the evaluation survey, the webinar series reached its target audience from 147 facilities and provided relevant information and resources. Survey results indicated that content and resources discussed were helpful.

Future efforts could focus on outreach to facilities with low webinar participation, like long-term care facilities, and increased dissemination of resources to aid in legionella prevention.

Surveys could be sent after each individual webinar, rather than series conclusion to increase response rates.

**SURVEY RESULTS**

- 28/164 (17%) registrants from the target audience responded to the webinar evaluation survey.
- 100% were interested in future educational opportunities.
- 96% rated content as very or extremely helpful.
- 68% reported their organization has a WMP.

**FACILITY TYPES**

- Hospital
- Healthcare Network
- Rehabilitation Center
- Other Healthcare Facility
- Public Health
- Non-Healthcare Facility
- Dialysis Center
- Long-Term Care Facility
- Other

**REGISTRANTS BY FACILITY LOCATION**

Participants’ organizations were distributed across 48 counties within TN and 11 other states. (Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia)

**VIEWS PER WEBINAR**

- 164 individuals registered for ≥1 webinar.
- Upon login, registrants entered the number of additional attendees viewing.
- The series averaged 145 viewers per webinar, totaling 869 views including unregistered attendees.

**Webinar Information**

Recorded webinars and presentations here:

- Introduction to Healthcare – Associated Legionellosis
- Water Management Programs
- Developing a Water Management Program
- Healthcare Experience with WMPs
- What to Expect in an Outbreak
- Review Resources and Healthcare Implications

**EVALUATION**

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