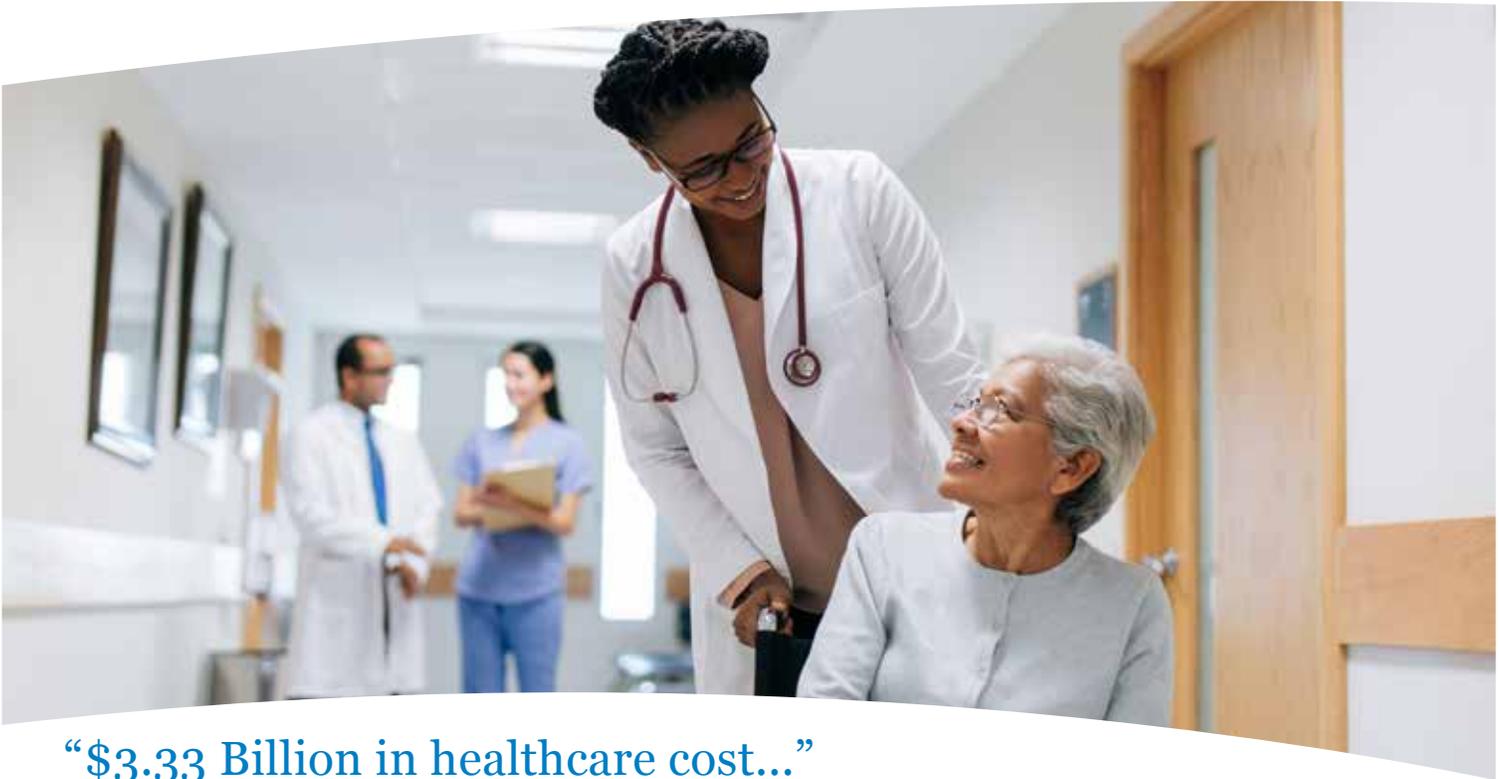


Impact of Infectious Waterborne Disease on Healthcare Costs

Healthcare systems are under a lot of pressure these days. Even before the pandemic, healthcare costs had been rising sharply with no end in sight. One particularly expensive and difficult problem that often flows under the radar is waterborne diseases. Not only are new, biofilm-related waterborne diseases on the rise across the nation due to aging water systems, but even within healthcare settings themselves. These are the exact problems to which Garratt-Callahan's (G-C) healthcare water treatment experts are applying their decades of expertise, with a focus on saving lives and reducing healthcare costs across the board.



“\$3.33 Billion in healthcare cost...”

At the beginning of the year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published research about the increasing risks and healthcare costs associated with waterborne pathogens. Their findings underscore just how urgent the problem is:

- Around 7.15 million people become sick from waterborne illnesses each year in the United States.
- Of these people, 601,000 are rushed to the emergency room, and 118,000 of those people must be hospitalized. 6,630 people died. Better water treatment systems would go a long way to preventing many of these illnesses and deaths.
- Furthermore, the United States incurs about \$3.33 billion in healthcare costs as a direct result of waterborne disease transmission. While it seems crass to attach a dollar amount to such sobering statistics, it's important to keep in mind that these very healthcare costs are a huge strain on human lives, both for patients and for healthcare workers themselves. Reducing these costs should be a major priority for everyone.

As for what kinds of waterborne pathogens cause this suffering, the majority come from biofilm-related illnesses including Legionella, Pseudomonas and nontuberculous mycobacteria.



Question: Who should you partner with to obtain a ASHRAE 188-2020 and CDC Toolkit compliant WMP?

Answer: Only a ASSE 12080 certified specialist.

ASSE 12080 outlines the minimum qualifications needed, including knowledge and competency, to become a member of a water safety team involved in the development of a risk assessment analysis, and water management and sampling plan, for protection from Legionella and other waterborne pathogens. Its purpose is to provide a curriculum of minimum criteria, identified by industry consensus, to ensure knowledge and understanding of standards and codes, and the resources, understanding, and skills needed to conduct a facility risk assessment and implement a water safety and management program to reduce the risk of infections due to Legionella.

Reduce Waterborne Pathogen Risks in Healthcare

Healthcare water management regulations and systems are already very stringent, yet still, despite best practices, waterborne illnesses are still transmitted within the healthcare system itself. Because many healthcare practices, from doctors' offices to hospitals and everywhere in between, require pure water as part of medical treatment, equipment sterilization, operating rooms, HVAC systems, laboratories, food services and ICUs, there's no room for error when it comes to maintaining the highest healthcare water treatment standards. This is one way to protect lives and reduce crippling healthcare costs.

Healthcare Water Treatment Solutions

Your patients' health and safety are your top priorities, and this is also G-C's top priority. Get started with a full-scale water quality evaluation for your healthcare facility today by filling out our contact form and letting us know what your water treatment challenges and concerns are. Our healthcare water management experts will reach out to you promptly to set up an onsite consultation and water systems evaluation. Together, we can reduce the risks and healthcare costs associated with the rise of waterborne illnesses and keep your patients and healthcare workers safe.

Cutting Healthcare Costs with Expert Water Treatment Systems

G-C water treatment services provide the highest level of expertise, certification and advanced healthcare water treatment equipment that directly addresses the pressing concerns about waterborne illness within healthcare settings. To solve these problems, G-C provides the following to our healthcare clients:

- Water quality management that complies with all CDC, healthcare and pharmaceutical regulations.
- Systems to optimize water treatment for cooling towers, RO systems and boilers to lengthen equipment lifespan and increase water quality.
- Ongoing water quality monitoring to prevent potential waterborne pathogen hazards.
- Customized, high-quality water treatment solutions that protect patients, healthcare staff and the environment

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