In July 2013, an outbreak of Legionnaires’ disease occurred at a long-term care facility in a suburb of Columbus, Ohio. Thirty-nine cases were confirmed; of those cases, six were fatal. Our cover feature this month, “Legionnaires’ Disease Outbreak at a Long-Term Care Facility Caused by a Cooling Tower Using an Automated Disinfection System—Ohio, 2013,” describes the epidemiologic and environmental investigation conducted to determine the scope of the outbreak, identify the source, and recommend control measures to prevent additional cases. Unused cooling towers with automated disinfection systems can become reservoirs for amplification and dissemination of Legionella. See page 8.

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