**BACKGROUND**

*Legionella pneumophila* is a Gram-negative bacterium that is considered an intracellular parasite and is associated with Legionnaires’ disease. While *L. pneumophila* is categorized as a Gram-negative organism, it stains poorly due to its unique lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-content in the outer leaflet of the outer cell membrane. Respiratory transmission of this organism can lead to infection, which is usually characterized by a gradual onset of flu-like symptoms. Patients may experience fever, chills and a dry cough as part of the early symptoms and can develop severe pneumonia, which is not responsive to penicillins or aminoglycosides. Legionnaires’ disease also has the potential to spread into other organ-systems of the body such as the gastrointestinal tract and the central nervous system.

**REFERENCES**


