



What is cryptosporidiosis?

- A microscopic parasite that is a frequent cause of waterborne disease among humans in the United States. The parasite is able to survive outside the body for long periods of time and is very resistant to chlorine disinfection. Lives in the intestines of humans and animals and shed in the stool of an infected person/animal.

How is it spread?

- Swallowing contaminated recreational water (pools, splash pads, hot tubs, lakes, etc.)
- Drinking water or beverages contaminated with feces
- Eating uncooked food that has been in contact with feces
- Touching surfaces or objects that have contacted feces and then touching your mouth

What are symptoms that could occur?

- Watery diarrhea
- Cramps
- Fever
- Weight loss

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Physician evaluation and laboratory analysis
- Prevent dehydration by drinking plenty of fluids

How can cryptosporidiosis be prevented?

- Avoid swallowing contaminated recreational water (pools, splash pads, hot tubs, lakes, etc.)
- Avoid drinking untreated water or beverages
- Avoid eating uncooked food
- Avoid touching surfaces or objects that have contacted feces and then touching your mouth

Should the sick individual be isolated?

- Yes, until stool returns to normal.

When can the individual return to the general population?

- Following physician recommendation and when the individual is feeling well. Avoid swimming pools until symptom-free for at least 14 days.

Should facilities do special cleaning?

- No. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended. Although, special cleaning for pools is advised.

Are there reporting requirements?

- Notify the Health Department of suspected or confirmed cases at **257-1017**

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department, 257-1017