

Waterborne Disease of Possible Concern

Waterborne Diseases of Possible Concern When Flood Waters Recede			
Disease and Transmission	Microbial Agent	Sources of Agent in Water Supply	General Symptoms
Amebiasis* (hand-to-mouth)	Protozoan (Entamoeba histolytic) (Cyst-like appearance)	Sewage, non-treated drinking water, flies in water supply	Abdominal discomfort, fatigue, weight loss, diarrhea, gas pains
Campylobacteriosis (oral-fecal)	Bacterium (vibrio cholerae)	Untreated water, sewage, poor hygiene, crowded living conditions with inadequate sewage facilities	Fever, abdominal pain, diarrhea
Cholera* (oral-fecal) (of lesser concern in U.S.)	Bacterium (vibrio cholerae)	Untreated water, sewage, poor hygiene, crowded living conditions with inadequate sewage facilities.	Watery diarrhea, vomiting, occasional muscle cramps
Cryptosporidiosis (oral)	Protozoan (Cryptosporidium parvum)	Collects on water filters and membranes that cannot be disinfected, animal manure, seasonal runoff of water.	Diarrhea, abdominal discomfort
Giardiasis* (oral-fecal) (hand-to-mouth)	Protozoan (Giardia lamblia) Most common intestinal parasite	Untreated water, poor disinfection, pipe breaks, leaks, groundwater contamination, campgrounds where humans and wildlife use same source of water. Beavers and muskrats act as a reservoir for Giardia.	Diarrhea, abdominal discomfort, bloating, gas and gas pains
Hepatitis* (oral-fecal) dark	Virus (Hepatitis A)	Raw sewage, untreated drinking water, poor hygiene, ingestion of shellfish from sewage-flooded beds	Fever, chills, abdominal discomfort, jaundice, urine

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Salmonellosis (oral transmission)	Bacterium (<i>Salmonella</i> species)	Contaminated water, shellfish, turtles, fish	Gastroenteritis, fever and rapid blood-poisoning.
Shigellosis* (oral-fecal)	Bacterium (<i>Shigella</i> species)	Sludge, untreated wastewater, groundwater contamination, poorly disinfected drinking water.	Fever, diarrhea, bloody stools
Typhoid fever* (oral-fecal) (of lesser concern in U.S.)	Bacterium (<i>Salmonella typhi</i>)	Raw sewage (carried and excreted in feces by humans), water supplies with surface water source.	Fever, headache, constipation, appetite loss, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal rash
Legionnaire's disease* (inhalation)	Bacterium/bacteria (<i>Legionellaceae</i> and <i>L. cinцинatus</i>)	Cooling towers, showers through inhalation of vapors, raw sewage, stagnant clean drinking water in water tanks or towers, construction sites near rivers, lakes.	Flu- and pneumonia-like symptoms: malaise, achiness, fever, chills, headache, nausea, dizziness, coughing, chest congestion, chest pain pressure, possible vomiting.
Pontiac fever (inhalation)	Bacterium (<i>Legionellaceae</i>)	Same sources as Legionnaire's disease.	Milder form of Legionnaire's disease. Pneumonia-like symptoms, but without fever. Illness is shorter in length.
Viral gastroenteritis (oral-fecal)	Viruses (includes Norwalk and rotavirus family)	Sewage, contaminated water, inadequately disinfected drinking water (mostly surface water sources).	Repeated vomiting and diarrhea over 24-hour period, gastrointestinal discomfort, headache, fever.