



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Epi Flash Report

Fort Bend County

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program

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Health & Human

Services

Public Health

Emergency

Preparedness

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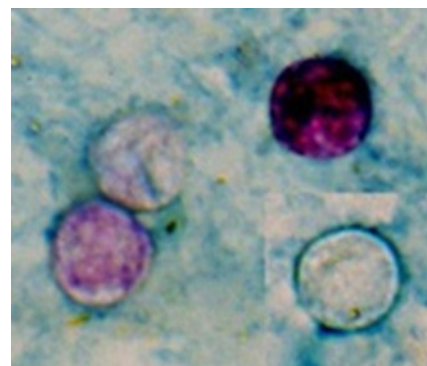
Fort Bend County
Health & Human
Services



Fort Bend County Health Advisory: Recommendation to test patients with consistent symptoms for *Cyclospora*

Fort Bend County HHS is advising healthcare providers to consider testing the stool of patients for the parasite *Cyclospora cayetanensis* if they have diarrheal illness lasting more than a few days or diarrhea accompanied by severe anorexia or fatigue.

As of July 10, Fort Bend County has not reported any human cases. Texas DSHS has reported 56 cases and CDC has reported 212 cases in four northern states. At this time, no specific vehicle of interest has been identified. Public health officials continue to investigate the increased number of cases to identify possible common exposures and a potential source or sources of infection.



Four *Cyclospora* oocysts from fresh stool stained using a modified acid-fast stain. (CDC)

Cyclosporiasis is an intestinal illness caused by consuming food or water already contaminated with the microscopic parasite *Cyclospora cayetanensis*.

Common symptoms usually begin 2 to 14 days after ingestion of the *Cyclospora* oocysts. They include profuse diarrhea that can last weeks to months and may relapse, anorexia, fatigue, weight loss, abdominal cramps, bloating, increased gas, nausea, vomiting, and low-grade fever.

Preventive measures include the following:

- Avoid food or water that may have been contaminated with feces.
- Thorough washing of fresh produce even though *Cyclospora* can be difficult to wash off all types of produce.

Supportive laboratory evidence is obtained by examining stool specimens. **Diagnosis of Cyclosporiasis requires submission of stool specimens for “Ova and Parasite” testing with additional specific orders for *Cyclospora* identification or testing by molecular methods (e.g., polymerase chain reaction (PCR), or a gastrointestinal (GI) pathogen panel test) that include detection of *Cyclospora*.** A single negative stool specimen does not exclude the diagnosis and three specimens are optimal.

To report confirmed or suspected cases, please use any of the following numbers:
P: 281-342-6414, Fax: 281-342-7371, or the secondary Fax: 832-471-1817

Environmental & Infectious Diseases in Fort Bend County

Diseases Notified to Texas DSHS	# of Investigations Completed in June 2018	# of Cases Notified to TX DSHS in June 2018	# of Investigations Completed from 01/01/2018 to 06/30/2018	# of Cases Notified to TX DSHS from 01/01/2018 to 06/30/2018
Campylobacteriosis	3	3	29	28
Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)	7	7	39	37
Chikungunya virus disease	2	1	5	2
Cryptosporidiosis	1	1	2	2
Cyclosporiasis	1	1	1	1
Dengue	3	-	9	-
Haemophilus influenzae, invasive	2	2	9	8
Hepatitis A, acute	2	-	12	1
Hepatitis B virus infection, Chronic	17	1	69	1
Hepatitis B, acute	7	-	78	1
Hepatitis C, acute	5	-	33	-
Lyme disease	1	-	30	-
Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)	11	-	46	-
Multidrug-resistant Acinetobacter (MDR-A)	4	4	18	16
Pertussis	8	4	26	13
Q fever	1	-	1	-
Rickettsia, unspecified	13	-	50	-
Rubella	4	-	12	-
Salmonellosis	10	10	42	42
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	3	3	11	11
Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive disease (IPD)	1	1	15	15
Streptococcus, invasive Group A	3	1	14	5
Streptococcus, invasive Group B	8	2	43	7
Varicella (Chickenpox)	18	2	67	14
West Nile Fever	1	-	5	-
Zika virus disease, non-congenital	13	-	63	-



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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
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