

POTENTIAL FLOOD-RELATED ILLNESSES

AGENT	CAUSE	Transmission through Skin Contact?	SYMPTOMS	Incubation Period	Treatment Options
<i>Leptospirosis</i>	Contact with water contaminated with urine from infected animals	Yes	Fever, HA, Myalgias, Vomiting, Jaundice	4 -19 days; Avg: 10 days	Doxy; PCN G
<i>Campylobacter</i>	Through contact with surface water that has become contaminated from infected feces from cows or wild birds	No	Diarrhea, cramping, abdominal pain, and fever	Range 1-10; Usually 2-5 days	Fluoroquinolone BID x 3-5 days or TMP/SMX DS BID x 3 days
<i>Giardia</i>	By swallowing water contaminated with <i>Giardia</i> . Water in lakes, rivers, springs, ponds, or streams can be contaminated with sewage or feces from humans or animals	No	Diarrhea, loose or watery stool, stomach cramps, and nausea, weight loss and dehydration. Some people have no symptoms	3 – 25 days	Flagyl 250 BID x 5 days
<i>E. coli</i>	Most infections are food-borne however, infection can also occur after swimming in or drinking sewage-contaminated water	No	Severe diarrhea (often bloody) and abdominal cramps. Usually afebrile. In children under 5 years and the elderly, hemolytic uremic syndrome can occur	2 – 8 days; Median 3 - 4	Most people recover without treatment and it is thought that treatment with some antibiotics may precipitate kidney complications. Anti-diarrheal agents should also be avoided.
<i>Shigella</i>	Can be acquired by drinking or swimming in contaminated water	+/-	Diarrhea (often bloody), fever, and stomach cramps	12 - 96 hours; Avg: 1-3 days	Fluoroquinolone BID x 3-5 days or TMP/SMX DS BID x 3 days

<i>Cryptosporidiosis</i>	Six outbreaks of <i>Cryptosporidiosis</i> attributed to drinking water have been recognized, including an outbreak in Milwaukee in 1993 that affected over 400,000 persons. Several outbreaks have also been associated with infected recreational water sites.	No	Diarrhea, loose or watery stool, stomach cramps, nausea, and low-grade fever. Some people are asymptomatic	2 – 10 days	Immunocompromised at increased risk. Supportive care
<i>Clostridium tetani</i>	Wounds contaminated by soils or floodwaters infected with tetanus	No	Stiffness of the jaw, neck and other muscles Spasms of your jaw and neck muscles Painful muscle spasms	2 days to several weeks; Avg: 8 to 12 days	PCN G 24 million units in divided doses or Doxy 100 mg q 12 IV or Flagyl 500 mg q 6h or 1.0 g IV q 12 hrs x 7 – 10 days