



CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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Multistate Cyclosporiasis Outbreak Situation Report and Guidance for Healthcare Providers **Information Current as of 0:00 July 13, 2026**

Outbreak Background

Since May 1, 2026, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has noted a sharp increase in cases of Cyclosporiasis in multiple regions across the country. This increase has also been observed in the State of Ohio including in Cuyahoga County.

Current Details

Since June 20, 2026, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has received 298 confirmed cases of Cyclosporiasis across more than half of reporting jurisdictions. Additionally, there are a significant number of suspected cases and clinically compatible illnesses being reported.

In the Cuyahoga County Board of Health Jurisdiction, 28 suspected cases have been reported.

National Response

The CDC is coordinating with state and local agencies to conduct appropriate and cohesive case investigations for all reported cases.

This includes sharing possible exposure information and arranging diagnostic testing as needed.

Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) Response

The CCBH Office of Epidemiology Surveillance and Informatics (ESI) is working to conduct appropriate follow up with all confirmed and suspected cases. This includes but is not limited to:

- Case interviews
- Laboratory analysis
- Environmental health follow-up at locations

Guidance for Healthcare Providers

What is Cyclosporiasis?

An intestinal illness caused by the parasite *Cyclospora cayetanensis*. People become infected by ingesting contaminated food or water.

Outbreaks of Cyclosporiasis are commonly linked to consumption of uncooked produce including vegetables such as lettuce and other greens and fruits such as berries.

The source of the ongoing outbreak has not yet been identified.

Per ODH, Symptoms of Cyclosporiasis include:

- Watery diarrhea (most common)
- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss
- Abdominal cramping/bloating
- Flatulence
- Nausea
- Fatigue
- Other symptoms that may occur but are less common include vomiting, body aches, and low-grade fever.

When ordering labs, the following tests can be used to diagnose Cyclosporiasis:

- O&P (e.g., microscopy, stained smears)
- GI PCR Panel (e.g., BioFire FilmArray®)
- PCR (i.e., standalone PCR test, not part of a panel)

Treatment

When indicated, cyclosporiasis is treated with a 7-to-10-day course of the oral antibiotic trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP/SMX).

Key Takeaways

- There is currently a national outbreak of Cyclosporiasis, a parasitic gastrointestinal disease commonly spread through contaminated food or water
- There is currently no known cause for this specific outbreak
- CCBH continues to investigate local cases and coordinate with state and federal partners
- Providers should be sure to include this as a part of the differential diagnosis and test for it when managing patients with gastrointestinal illness

Please Direct Questions/Concerns to the CCBH Disease Team:

216.201.2080

disease@ccbh.net