

## Waterborne Illnesses and their Effects

AGENT	ACUTE EFFECTS	CHRONIC/ULTIMATE EFFECTS
<b>BACTERIA</b>		
E. coli O157:H7	Diarrhea	Adults: death (thrombocytopenia)
Legionella pneumoniae	Fever, pneumonia	Elderly: death
Helicobacter pylori	Gastritis	Ulcers and stomach cancer
Vibrio cholerae	Diarrhea	Death
Vibrio vulnificus	Skin & tissue infection	Death in those with liver disorders or problems
Campylobacter	Diarrhea	Death: Guillain-Barré syndrome
Salmonella	Diarrhea	Reactive arthritis
Yersinia	Diarrhea	Reactive arthritis
Shigella	Diarrhea	Reactive arthritis
Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) and their toxins	Diarrhea	Potential cancer
Leptospirosis	Fever, headache, chills, muscle aches, vomiting	Weil's Disease, death (not common)
Aeromonas hydrophila	Diarrhea	
<b>PARASITES</b>		
Giardia lamblia	Diarrhea	Failure to thrive, Severe hypothyroidism, Lactose intolerance, Chronic joint pain
Cryptosporidium	Diarrhea	Death in immunocompromised host
Toxoplasma gondii	Newborn syndrome, Hearing and visual loss, Mental retardation, Diarrhea	Dementia and/or seizures
Acanthamoeba	Eye infections	
Microsporidia, (Enterocytozoon & Septata)	Diarrhea	
<b>VIRUSES</b>		
Hepatitis viruses	Liver infection	Liver failure
Adenoviruses	Eye infections, diarrhea	
Caliciviruses, small round structured viruses, Norwalk virus	Diarrhea	
Coxsackieviruses	Encephalitis, Aseptic meningitis, Diarrhea, Respiratory disease	Heart disease (Myocarditis), reactive insulin-dependent diabetes
Echoviruses	Aseptic meningitis	

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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