

What is cryptosporidiosis?

Cryptosporidiosis is a diarrhoeal illness caused by a parasite called cryptosporidium. Both children and adults can get it, but it is more common in children.

What illness results from infection?

The incubation period is usually 1-2 weeks. Symptoms include watery, diarrhoeal stools, abdominal pain, and sometimes nausea and vomiting. In children, it can also cause malabsorption and weight loss. Most people recover within a few weeks, but some may have long-term effects.

Should I see my GP?

You should see your GP if you have one or more of the following symptoms: watery diarrhoea, abdominal pain, or a fever. You should also see your GP if you are immunocompromised or if you have been in contact with someone who has cryptosporidiosis.

How are infections treated?

Most people recover on their own. However, in some cases, antibiotics may be prescribed to help with symptoms.

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Where does crypto come from?

Cryptosporidium is found in many environments, including water, soil, and animal droppings. It is often found in the faeces of cattle, sheep, and pigs. The infection is spread through contaminated water or food, or through direct contact with infected animals.

**If someone in your household has
crypto:**

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