

Disease	Onset & Symptoms	Agent	Reservoir	Mode of Transmission
Amebic Dysentery (Amebiasis)	Variable, 2-4 weeks. An infection with a protozoan parasite. Most infections are asymptomatic, but may become clinically important - fever, chills and bloody diarrhea.	Protozoan <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	Man	Epidemic outbreaks result mainly from ingestion of fecally contaminated water containing amebic cysts. Endemic spread is by hand-to-mouth transfer, and eating raw, contaminated vegetables.
Ascariasis (Roundworm)	A helminthic infection of the small intestine generally associated with few or no symptoms. Heavy parasite infection may aggravate nutritional deficiency; complications may include bowel obstruction, etc.	Helminth <i>Ascaris lumbricoides</i>	Infected persons, ascarid eggs in soil	By ingestion of infected eggs from soil contaminated with human feces or uncooked produce contaminated with soil containing infective eggs.
Bacillus cereus Food Poisoning	1-6 hours where vomiting is the primary symptom, 6-16 hours where diarrhea is predominant.	Bacteria <i>Bacillus cereus</i> Forms two enterotoxins: heat stable form->vomiting; heat form labile->diarrhea.	Ubiquitous organism of soil and commonly found in raw, dried and processed foods.	Ingestion of food that has been kept at ambient temperatures after cooking, permitting multiplication of the organism. Most outbreaks associated with rice, some with vegetable and meat dishes.
Botulism	12-36 hours. A severe intoxication characterized by clinical manifestation of the nervous system; visual difficulty, dry mouth sore throat are often first complaint followed by paralysis (and death in 15% of cases).	Bacteria Toxins produced by <i>Clostridium botulinum</i>	Soil, marine sediments and intestinal tract of animals including fish.	By ingestion of food in which toxin had been formed, predominately after inadequate heating in home canning, and eaten without subsequent adequate cooking.
Brucellosis	5-21 days or longer. Insidious onset characterized by irregular fever, sweating, chills, and pain in joints and muscles.	Bacteria <i>Brucella melitensis</i> ; <i>B. abortus</i> ; <i>B. Suis</i>	Tissue, blood, milk and urine of infected animals	By contact with tissue, blood, etc. of infected animals; ingestion of raw milk and dairy products (cheese) from infected animals; airborne infection of animals occurs in pens and stables and of man in abattoirs.
Campylobacter enteritis	3-5 days. Acute enteric disease of variable severity characterized by diarrhea, abdominal pain, malaise, fever, nausea and vomiting.	Bacteria <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	Swine, cattle, cats, dogs and other pets, rodents, birds including poultry	By ingestion of the organism in food or in unpasteurized milk or water; from contact with infected pets, esp. puppies and kittens. Possibly from cross-contamination of food.
Cholera	2-3 days. An acute bacterial enteric disease with sudden onset, profuse watery stools, occasional vomiting, rapid dehydration, acidosis and circulatory collapse. In severe untreated cases CFR >50%.	Bacteria <i>Vibrio cholerae</i>	Man; recent outbreaks in the USA suggest presence of environmental reservoirs	Primarily through ingestion of water contaminated with feces or vomitus of patients or, to a lesser extent, feces of carriers.
Clostridium Food Poisoning	6-24 hours. An intestinal disorder characterized by sudden onset of colic followed by diarrhea; nausea is common but vomiting and fever are usually absent.	Bacteria Toxins produced by <i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	Soil, also the GI tract of healthy persons and animals	Ingestion of food contaminated by soil or feces, held under conditions which permit multiplication of the organism. Most outbreaks are associated with inadequately reheated meat products (stews, gravies, etc.)

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Cryptosporidiosis	1-12 days? A parasitic infection characterized by diarrhea, which may be profuse and watery, preceded by anorexia and vomiting in children. Cramps and abdominal pain are often present.	Protozoan <i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i>	Humans, cattle and other domestic animals	Fecal-oral including person-to-person, animal-to-person, waterborne, and foodborne. Oocysts can survive in the environment for long periods of time.
Diarrhea (Acute)	12-72 hours. Strains of E. coli which cause diarrhea are of 3 types: invasive, enterotoxigenic and enteropathogenic. Invasive strains affect colon - fever and mucoid diarrhea, Enterotoxigenic strains ≈ cholera.	Bacteria <i>Escherichia coli</i>	Infected persons	Major mode of transmission is fecal contamination of food, water or fomites, person-to-person transmission has also been demonstrated
Giardiasis	5-25 days, usually 7-10 days. A protozoan infection of the upper small intestine, often asymptomatic, may have variety of symptoms including chronic diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, fatigue and weight loss.	Protozoan <i>Giardia lamblia</i>	Man; possibly beaver and other wild and domestic animals	Localized outbreaks occur from ingestion of cysts in fecally contaminated water and less often contaminated food. Usual chlorination of water does not kill cysts.
Infectious Hepatitis	15-50 days, usually 28-30 days. Onset is usually abrupt with fever, malaise, anorexia, nausea and abdominal discomfort, followed within a few days by jaundice. CFR < 0.1%.	Virus Hepatitis A	Man, rarely captive chimpanzees.	Person-to-person by fecal-oral route. Common vehicle outbreaks have been related to contaminated water, food, including milk, sliced meats, salads and raw or undercooked molluscs.
Legionellosis	5-6 days. An acute bacterial disease with 2 manifestations - legionnaires disease and Pontiac Fever. Both are characterized by anorexia, malaise, myalgia and headache.	Bacteria <i>Legionella pneumophila</i>	Probably water; soil has been suspected. Hot water systems and air cooling towers or evaporative condensers implicated.	Evidence supports airborne transmission; other modes are possible but none have been proven.
Q Fever	2-3 weeks. An acute febrile rickettsial disease; onset may be sudden with chills, headache, weakness, malaise and severe sweats; much variation in severity and duration. CFR <1% even untreated.	Rickettsia <i>Coxiella burnetii</i>	Cattle, sheep, goats, ticks and some silf animals.	Commonly airborne dissemination of rickettsiae in dust from premises contaminated by placental tissues, etc., also contact with wool, straw, etc.; some cases due to consumption of raw milk.
Salmonellosis	12-36 hours. Sudden onset of headache, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea, and sometimes vomiting. Fever is nearly always present.	Bacteria <i>Salmonella typhimurium</i> , other Salmonella species	Domestic and wild animals including poultry, swine, cattle, rodents and pets (turtles, chicks, etc.)	By ingestion of the organism in food derived from infected animals or contaminated by feces, including raw eggs and egg products, poultry, meat and meat products, raw milk, etc.; also pet turtles
Shellfish Poisoning (paralytic)	5-30 mins. Respiratory paralysis. In milder form, trembling about lips to loss of control of the extremities and neck.	Neurotoxin produced by <i>Gonyaulax catenella</i>	Clams and mussels feeding on specific dinoflagellates	Ingestion of clams and mussels (associated with so-called "red tides") which have ingested the neurotoxin produced by the dinoflagellates. Mazy occur in the absence of red coloration of the water.

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Shigellosis	1-3 days. An acute bacterial disease involving large and small intestines, characterized by diarrhea accompanied by fever, nausea, and sometimes toxemia, vomiting and cramps.	Bacteria <i>Shigella dysenteriae</i> ; <i>S. flexneri</i> , <i>S. boydii</i> , and <i>S. sonnei</i> .	Man is the only significant reservoir	By direct or indirect fecal-oral transmission from a patient or carrier. Infection may occur after ingestion of 10-100 organisms. Water, milk, cockroach and fly-borne transmission may occur.
Staphylococcal Food Poisoning	2-4 hours. An intoxication of abrupt and sometimes violent onset, with severe nausea, cramps, vomiting and prostration, often accompanied by diarrhea.	Bacteria Several enterotoxins of <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Man in most instances	By ingestion of a food product containing the enterotoxin - pastries, custards, salad dressings, sandwiches, sliced meats and meat products left at room temperature.
Streptococcal Food Poisoning	1-3 days. Strep throat patients frequently exhibit fever, sore throats, exudative tonsillitis or pharyngitis and tender anterior cervical lymph nodes.	Bacteria <i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	Man	Direct or intimate contact with patient or carrier, rarely by indirect contact through objects or hands. Explosive outbreaks may follow ingestion of contaminated food, esp. milk, milk products, egg salads.
Trichinosis	10-14 days. A disease caused by intestinal roundworm whose larvae migrate into the muscle. Clinical disease can range from inapparent infection to fulminating, fatal disease.	Helminth <i>Trichinella spiralis</i>	Swine, dogs, cats, rats and many wild animals including bears.	By eating raw or insufficiently cooked flesh of animals containing viable encysted larvae, chiefly pork and pork products.
Typhoid Fever	1-3 weeks, depending on dose. A systemic bacterial disease characterized by insidious onset of sustained fever, headache, malaise, anorexia, and rose colored spots on trunk.	Bacteria <i>Salmonella typhi</i>	Man, both patients and carriers	By food and water contaminated by feces or urine of a patient or carrier. Shellfish taken from sewage contaminated beds and raw fruits, vegetables, raw milk and milk products.
Vibrio Parahaemolyticus Food Poisoning	12-24 hours. An intestinal disorder characterized by watery diarrhea and abdominal cramps, sometimes with nausea, vomiting, fever and headache	Bacteria <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	Marine coastal environments	ingestion of raw or undercooked seafood or any food cross-contaminated by handling raw seafood
Viral Gastroenteritis	24-48 hours. A mild disease with nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, myalgia, headache, or combination thereof.	Virus Norwalk virus	Man	Unknown; probably by fecal-oral route. Several recent outbreaks have strongly suggested foodborne and waterborne transmission.
Yersiniosis	3-7 days. An acute enteric disease manifested by acute watery diarrhea, enterocolitis, fever, headache, pharyngitis, anorexia, vomiting, etc.	Bacteria <i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	Domestic animals	Fecal-oral transmission takes place by contact with infected persons or animals or by eating and drinking fecally contaminated food and water: raw milk, ice cream, mussels, oysters, tofu, canned beef, etc.