

Merlin disease code: 00710 Giardiasis, Acute

[Paper case report form](#)
Merlin extended data optional

Background

Giardiasis is an illness caused by the protozoan *Giardia lamblia* (also known as *G. intestinalis* or *G. duodenalis*) and characterized by diarrhea, abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting, fever, anorexia, bloating, weight loss, or malabsorption. Asymptomatic infections are common, but asymptomatic cases do not meet the surveillance case definition.

Clinical criteria for case classification

One or more of the following: diarrhea, abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting, fever, anorexia (loss of appetite), bloating, weight loss, malabsorption.

Laboratory criteria for case classification

One or more of the following:

- Identification of *G. lamblia* cysts or trophozoites (e.g., microscopic detection),
- **Or** detection of *Giardia* nucleic acid (e.g., polymerase chain reaction [PCR]),
- **Or** detection of *G. lamblia* antigen by immunodiagnostic test (e.g., unspecified immunoassay [IA], enzyme immunoassay [EIA], immunofluorescence assay [IF], direct fluorescent antibody [DFA], indirect fluorescent antibody [IFA]).

Epidemiological criteria for case classification

A person who is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed giardiasis case.

Case classification

Confirmed:

A clinically compatible illness in a person with laboratory criteria.

Probable:

A clinically compatible illness in a person with epidemiological criteria.

Criteria to distinguish a new case from previous reports

Not applicable.