Giardia Overview PPT Video: <https://youtu.be/8s1k-KkssoU>

**Scenario**

An [appropriate job role – CD nurse, clerk, Epi, etc.] is reviewing MDSS and notices five [county name] cases of giardia over a span of several days. The [appropriate job role – CD nurse, clerk, Epi, etc.] notifies the Nursing Supervisor and the Medical Director assuming there is a possible outbreak and that the cases are somehow connected. The group decides that this is an odd incident that needs further review. Case investigation finds that the five current [county name] cases are between 3-6 years of age, are a mix of male and female and that two of the cases are siblings from within the same household. Addresses for the remaining three cases show that they live throughout a residential neighborhood.

As the investigation continues, the team learns that the cases all attended a birthday party the previous week that was held at the swimming pool/playscape area within the neighborhood. Access to the pool is limited to members of the community, however, guests can visit and use the facilities if they are with a member. There is no way of tracking who accesses the area during daily use as the gated area remains unlocked without a badging or code system and residents can come and go as needed. Members who want to rent the space for activities or parties are required to reserve dates and sign an agreement of use at the front office. Members do not need to provide a guestlist, but they are limited to 50 guests. The team learns the party was held the previous Saturday and was for one of the cases, a five-year-old girl whose parents are members of the community. The girl’s mother did not adhere to the 50-guest rule and invited more since many adults were not planning to swim or use the water park anyway.

The party involved use of a clubhouse with a kitchen area for food prep and storage, access to an outdoor pavilion with picnic tables, a zero-entry pool with a splash pad and sprayers in the shallow end, and a play structure that includes multiple slides and water elements. The dad and a few friends cooked and prepped most of the menu onsite. Food items included burgers and hot dogs, pasta salads, baked beans, corn on the cob, green salad, and watermelon. The cake and cupcakes came from an offsite bakery and there was also an ice cream vendor who came in his food truck and handed out made to order overstuffed milkshakes.

In speaking with the mother of the case, the team learns that she and her two children began experiencing symptoms of abdominal pain, diarrhea, and vomiting about a week after the party. Assuming it was food poisoning or possibly norovirus, she kept her kids home from school a few days – dad did not experience any symptoms. After mom began improving, but symptoms persisted in the children, she took them to their pediatrician to see if there was something more than a stomach bug. By the time their test results came back as positive for giardia, both children had an improvement in symptoms and were able to return to school.

A week after identifying the initial five cases in MDSS, the [appropriate job role – CD nurse, clerk, Epi, etc.] sees additional confirmed cases, bringing the case count to 16. Many of the cases are children under eight, but there are some adult cases, as well as non-[county name] residents. Through further investigation, all report swimming at the same swimming pool/ playscape.

**Intended Audience**

[Change titles as appropriate] Health Officer, Medical Director, PPHS Director, Environmental Health Director, Nursing Supervisor, CD Nurse, EPC, Health Promotions Coordinator, Epidemiology, EH Field Program Coordinator, EH Specialist

**Objectives and Tasks**

1. Ensure participating staff understand the role they might fill during this type of response as well as the role/responsibilities of [agency name] as we fit into the “bigger picture” of the response.
2. Explain process for activating the [enter name of your public health EOC/command center: ex., PHECC, EOC, etc.] and the steps taken for notification, alerting key partners, initial meeting, etc.
3. Identify pre-event incident action planning items (i.e., things we need to accomplish or develop now prior to this type of incident occurring – materials for the [enter name of your public health EOC/command center: ex., PHECC, EOC, etc.] activation process, templates, etc.).
4. Identify potential communication and/or print/digital materials needs.
5. Identify who is at highest risk for this type of incident. What additional needs should we consider for our Access and Functional Needs population?

**Possible Reference Materials**

* Emergency Response Activation Checklist
* [MDHHS A-Z Page](https://bit.ly/41hx6iu) – Giardiasis Resources, Pg. 8
* [CDC Giardia Resources](https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/giardia/index.html)
* "*Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*"- 21st edition
* [Agency] CD Manual – [Include internal link to your CD plan]