

Reporting Criteria of Cryptosporidiosis

(1) Definition:

Infection caused by oral ingestion of oocysts of Cryptosporidium spp.

(2) Clinical signs and symptoms:

Incubation period is 4-5 days, no longer than 10 days. Symptoms vary and range from being asymptomatic to anorexia, vomiting, abdominal pain, and/or diarrhea.

If immunologically competent, patients recover within several days. Immunocompromised patients, including those with HIV/AIDS, may experience massive diarrhea (3-5 L or even >10 L per day), that may result in death.

(3) Reporting criteria

a) "Patients (confirmed cases)"

In compliance with Article 12 paragraph 1 of the Infectious Diseases Control Law, if a physician examines a patient with clinical characteristics as described in (2), suspects cryptosporidiosis from clinical findings, and makes a diagnosis of cryptosporidiosis based on the laboratory methods and specimen as described below, the physician must notify the case within 7 days.

b) "Deceased"

In compliance with Article 12 paragraph 1 of the Infectious Diseases Control Law, if a physician suspects cryptosporidiosis in a deceased patient with clinical characteristics as described in (2), and diagnoses that the death was due to cryptosporidiosis based on the laboratory methods and specimen as described below, the physician must notify the case within 7 days.

| Laboratory method | Specimen |
|---|----------|
| Detection of oocysts of the pathogen by microscopy | |
| Detection of the antigen(s) of the pathogen by | Stool |
| enzyme-linked antibody method or immunochromatography | |
| Detection of the pathogen genome by PCR. | |