



Surveillance report.

Annual surveillance of *Cyclospora* in Scotland, 2017

Prepared by: Gastrointestinal and Zoonoses Team

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Cyclospora cayetanensis is a protozoa that infects humans and other primates. Infection can cause frequent, watery diarrhoea, abdominal cramping, bloating, nausea, flatulence, low-grade fever, loss of appetite and weight. Individuals with underlying immune deficiency can be at risk of more severe disease. Infection is commonly derived from food or water contaminated by human faeces and there is no evidence of zoonotic transmission. The foods commonly associated with *Cyclospora* infection include soft fruits such as raspberries and salad products such as lettuce and coriander.

A total of 46 laboratory reports of *Cyclospora* were received by HPS in 2017, compared to 167 in 2016, 24 in 2015 and just two in 2014. The increase in 2015, 2016 and 2017 was associated with outbreaks among travellers returning from Mexico during the summer months. More information on these outbreaks is available at <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=22854> and <http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=21284>.

While a small number of cases of *Cyclospora* have been reported in travellers returning from Mexico during the summer of 2018, the numbers have been lower than in recent years.

General information on the cyclospora risk for travellers to Mexico and general food and water precautions are available on the fitfortravel website:

- <https://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/advice/disease-prevention-advice/cyclospora-infection>.
- <http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/advice/general-travel-health-advice/food-and-water-precautions.aspx>.

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Meridian Court, 5 Cadogan Street, Glasgow G2 6QE

T: 0141 300 1100 **F:** 0141 300 1170

W: <http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk> **Email:** NSS.HPSEnquiries@nhs.net

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