



Reporting Criteria of Giardiasis

(1) Definition:

Protozoan infection caused by *Giardia lamblia*, an intestinal parasitic flagellate

(2) Clinical signs and symptoms:

Infection is caused by oral ingestion of foods or water contaminated by the cysts found in the stool of infected patients. Although mostly asymptomatic, infection may cause anorexia, abdominal discomfort or diarrhea (often steatorrhea), and may result in severe outcomes among immunocompromised patients.

(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 giardiasis from clinical findings, and makes a diagnosis of giardiasis based on the laboratory methods and specimens 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 giardiasis in a deceased patient with clinical characteristics as described in (2), and diagnoses that the death was due to giardiasis based on the laboratory methods and specimens as described below, the physician must notify the case within 7 days.

Laboratory method	Specimen
Detection of <i>Giardia</i> by microscopy	Stool, duodenal fluid, bile
Detection of the antigen(s) of the pathogen by enzyme-linked antibody method or immunochromatography	
Detection of the pathogen genome by PCR.	