

July 25, 2025

To: Physicians in the Calgary Zone

From: Calgary Zone Medical Officers of Health

Please note that a gastrointestinal (GI) outbreak has been declared at Saskatoon Farms. The pathogens identified are **Enteroinvasive Escherichia coli (EIEC) and *Entamoeba histolytica***. Patients presenting with gastrointestinal symptoms who **visited Saskatoon Farms between July 1 to 16 and consumed food or beverages or water at the restaurant strongly recommend to complete stool testing** (bacterial enteric panel and stool parasite screen/ova & parasites). Symptomatic individuals are advised to see their primary care provider or reach out to 811 Health Link for a Virtual MD assessment.

Entamoeba histolytica is a parasite and a notifiable disease in which can cause amoebiasis . The **incubation period** for amoebiasis ranges from a few days to several months or years but **most commonly two to four weeks**. Due to the potential long-term extraintestinal manifestations of amoebiasis and asymptomatic carriage, all individuals who consumed food or beverages or water between July 1 to 16 (even if asymptomatic) are recommended to also complete testing after July 30.

Recommendations:

- **Symptomatic individuals**
 - Clinically assess and use a [microbiology requisition \(https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20571.pdf\)](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/frm-20571.pdf) for stool testing for **Bacterial Enteric Panel/Stool Culture and Stool Parasite Screen** ;
 - Please include the **exposure investigation number (EI 2025-855)** in the **Clinical Information/Suspected Organism** section to link to the Saskatoon Farm outbreak.
 - Given the incubation period of *E. histolytica*, if negative for *E. histolytica*, it is recommended to **repeat Stool Parasite Screen testing after July 30th** .
 - Patients may pick up stool testing kits from their nearest lab or your office. If a full stool testing kit is not available a sterile container used for urine culture can be used.
- **Asymptomatic individuals**
 - Do not require clinical assessment.
 - For this group of patients, requisitions and stool kits for **Stool Parasite Screen testing** may be collected from the Public Health Laboratory (ProvLab) located at Foothills Medical Centre, 3030 Hospital Drive, NW, Calgary **after July 30th**.

Results:

If testing is positive for **EIEC**, this is generally **self limited** and can be managed with **supportive treatment**. **Antimicrobial therapy is generally not indicated** due to the self-limited nature of this disease, however, if severe please direct to emergency care if indicated. Antimicrobials may be considered in consultation with Infectious Disease specialists.

If testing is positive for ***Entamoeba histolytica***, even if asymptomatic, please **consult with Infectious Disease** through Specialist Link/RAAPID for further management.