



To:	General Practices, Pharmacists, After-Hours Centres and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
From:	Dr Jill McKenzie, Medical Officer of Health
Date:	22 July 2016
Title:	Public Health Alert: Cryptosporidiosis Cases Associated with Arena Aquatic Centre, Porirua

Please distribute the following information to relevant staff in your organisation.

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All public health alerts are available at www.rph.org.nz (health professionals – public health alerts)

Cryptosporidiosis and Swimming Pools

We would like to advise you of a number of cryptosporidiosis cases that have been associated with swimming pools in our region, predominantly the Arena Aquatic Centre in Porirua. Five cases are confirmed to have been exposed to this pool during their incubation period (usually 7 days, range 1-12 days). The cases, including both adults and children, swam between the dates of 19 June and 26 June. The pool has closed for cleaning over the weekend 23-24 July.

Please be aware of potential cases that may have been exposed to this or other swimming pools in our region. Cryptosporidium is a notifiable disease. Treatment is usually symptomatic relief only.

Public swimming pool use by recently infected people facilitates circulation of the illness. We are working with all pools in the region to ensure good systems are in place. This includes increasing the messaging about avoiding swimming during the period of greatest infectiousness i.e. during the illness and for 2 weeks after the symptoms stop.

Please remind patients not to swim in public swimming pools for two weeks after being ill with diarrhoea, and to be very vigilant about hand washing and preparing food when anyone in the house has a diarrhoeal illness. Cryptosporidiosis is very easily passed on person to person in a household.

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He ture no nga korero katoa kei roto o tenei karere, no reira, kia tupato. Mehemea kaore matau kua e mau. Me whakamohiotia atu ki to Tari, me te mea nana I tonu mai. E Tika Hoki.

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Regional Public Health
Better Health For The Greater Wellington Region



A factsheet on cryptosporidiosis and information regarding precautions prior to entering a swimming pool, is available at:

<http://www.rph.org.nz/publichealthtopics/recreationalwater/resources>

Or

<https://www.healthed.govt.nz/resource/cryptosporidium>