I. IDENTIFICATION
   A. CLINICAL DESCRIPTION: An illness caused by the protozoan Giardia lamblia and characterized by diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloating, weight loss, or malabsorption. Infected persons may be asymptomatic.

   B. REPORTING CRITERIA: Laboratory diagnosis.

   C. LABORATORY CRITERIA FOR CONFIRMATION:
      • Demonstration of Giardia lamblia cysts in stool, OR
      • Demonstration of Giardia lamblia trophozoites in stool, duodenal fluid, or small bowel biopsy, OR
      • Demonstration of Giardia lamblia antigen by specific immunodiagnostic test such as Direct Fluorescent Antigen (DFA).

   D. WISCONSIN CASE DEFINITION: A case that is laboratory confirmed.

II. ACTIONS REQUIRED / PREVENTION MEASURES
   A. WISCONSIN DISEASE SURVEILLANCE CATEGORY II:
      Report to the patient’s local health department either electronically through the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS), by mail or fax using an Acute and Communicable Disease Case Report (F-44151), or by other means within 72 hours upon recognition of a case or suspected case.

   B. EPIDEMIOLOGY REPORTS REQUIRED:
      • Electronically – Report through WEDSS, including appropriate disease-specific tabs OR
      • Paper Copy – Acute and Communicable Diseases Case Report (F-44151).
      • Routine Enteric Follow-up Worksheet – (See page 1 of the Worksheet for specific recommendations regarding which sections are recommended during routine follow-up).

   C. PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTIONS:
      In accordance with Wisconsin Administrative rule DHS 145.05, local public health should follow the methods of control recommended in the current edition of Control of Communicable Diseases Manual, edited by David L. Heymann, published by the American Public Health Association.

      • Educate public about proper hand washing after using the toilet or handling contaminated clothing or linens, before cooking, or associating with high-risk individuals.
      • Assess patient’s activities for high-risk settings.
      • Educate and advise high-risk patients and food handlers on enteric precautions.
Wisconsin Division of Public Health Communicable Disease Surveillance Guideline

- Source investigation by LHD.
- Determine if case is outbreak-related and notify DPH Regional Office or CDES.

III. CONTACTS FOR CONSULTATION

B. BCDER / COMMUNICABLE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTION: (608) 267-9003

C. WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE / BACTERIOLOGY: (608) 263-3421

IV. RELATED REFERENCES

