

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF AMEBIASIS?

Only about 10% to 20% of people who are infected with *E. histolytica* become sick from the infection. Those people who do become sick usually develop symptoms within 2 to 4 weeks, though it can sometimes take longer.

1

diarrhea (loose stool/poop)



2

weight loss



3

stomach tenderness



4

occasional fever.



HOW IS AMEBIASIS DIAGNOSED?



1

Examination of stools (poop) under a microscope is the most common way for a doctor to diagnose amebiasis. *E. histolytica* is not always found in every stool sample, you may be asked to submit several stool samples from several different days.

2

A blood test but it may not be helpful in diagnosing your current illness because the test can be positive if you had amebiasis in the past, even if you are not infected now.

What is amebiasis?

a disease caused by a one-celled parasite called *Entamoeba histolytica*.

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HOW IS AMEBIASIS TREATED?

TWO TREATMENT OPTIONS ARE POSSIBLE, DEPENDING ON THE LOCATION. AMOEBIASIS IN TISSUE IS TREATED WITH METRONIDAZOLE, TINIDAZOLE, NITAZOXANIDE, DEHYDROEMETINE, OR CHLOROQUINE. A LUMINAL INFECTION IS TREATED WITH DILOXANIDE FUROATE OR IODOQUINOLINE. EFFECTIVE TREATMENT MAY REQUIRE A COMBINATION OF MEDICATIONS.



POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS

1

- Liver abscess (collection of pus in the liver)

2

- Medicine side effects, including nausea

3

- Spread of the parasite through the blood to the liver, lungs, brain, or other organs

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF AMEBIASIS?

- The most important precautions are careful hand washing after each toilet visit



- you should clean your produce before you cut, eat, or cook it. Experts recommend washing all produce under running water and drying with a clean cloth towel

- Sealed bottled or canned water, boiled tap water, and carbonated water are safer options.



- avoid food or drinks sold by street vendors