



YERSINIOSIS

WHAT IS YERSINIOSIS?

YERSINIOSIS IS AN UNCOMMON BACTERIAL DISEASE THAT AFFECTS THE INTESTINES.

WHO GETS YERSINIOSIS?

ANY PERSON CAN GET YERSINIOSIS BUT IT IS SEEN MORE OFTEN IN CHILDREN. ANIMALS ARE THE MAIN SOURCE OF THE YERSINIA GERM. FECAL WASTES FROM ANIMALS (PARTICULARLY PIGS) MAY INFECT WATER, MILK AND FOODS AND BECOME A SOURCE OF INFECTION FOR PEOPLE OR OTHER ANIMALS.

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

THE YERSINIA GERM IS SPREAD BY EATING OR DRINKING INFECTED FOOD OR WATER OR BY CONTACT WITH AN INFECTED PERSON OR ANIMAL.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

INFECTED PEOPLE MAY HAVE MILD OR SEVERE DIARRHEA, FEVER AND STOMACH CRAMPS.

HOW SOON DO SYMPTOMS APPEAR?

SYMPTOMS APPEAR THREE TO SEVEN DAYS AFTER INFECTION.

HOW IS YERSINIOSIS TREATED?

MOST CASES RECOVER ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT TREATMENT. THOSE WITH SEVERE SYMPTOMS OR BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS ARE TREATED WITH MEDICATIONS.

HOW LONG CAN AN INFECTED PERSON CARRY THE GERM?

THE GERM IS ABLE TO BE SPREAD DURING THE TIME THE PERSON IS HAVING DIARRHEA AND IN SOME CASES FOR A FEW WEEKS OR MONTHS AFTERWARD.

HOW CAN YERSINIOSIS BE PREVENTED?

ONLY EAT AND DRINK SAFE AND PROPERLY TREATED AND PREPARED FOOD AND WATER. INFECTED PEOPLE MUST BE VERY CAREFUL TO THOROUGHLY WASH THEIR HANDS AFTER EACH TOILET VISIT.