

<b>Amoebiasis</b>		
V3.1	Last reviewed: 15/09/2022	Review date: 15/09/2025

## GASTRO-INTESTINAL TRACT INFECTIONS

### Amoebiasis ([CKS Gastroenteritis](#))

Parasitic infection acquired via the ingestion of contaminated food or water. Person-to-person transmission may also occur between household and sexual contacts via the faecal-oral route.

Most cases in the UK are imported by travellers to endemic areas and 90% of cases are asymptomatic. Symptoms are often mild diarrhoea and abdominal pain, but severe disease (amoebic dysentery) can occur, causing fever, severe abdominal pain, and blood and mucus in the faeces.

#### **Only diagnosed after positive stool sample result.**

If there is any uncertainty regarding the need for follow-up testing for microbiological clearance after confirmed infection, seek advice from the [local health protection team](#).

- NHS stool sample collection patient information leaflet [here](#)

#### **Follow self-care and fluid intake advice ([CKS Gastroenteritis](#))**

#### **Treatment:**

Drug treatment is usually recommended for all confirmed cases after specialist advice.

Individual cases should be discussed with an Infectious Diseases (ID) specialist for appropriate treatment options. Please contact the Infectious Diseases team via 'Advice and Guidance' or telephone the on-call ID specialist.

Version Control- Amoebiasis			
Version	Author(s)	Date	Changes
V2.2	Shary Walker, Interface and Formulary Pharmacist	29/01/21	Removed Tinidazole as discontinued end of Jan 2021
V2.3	Karen Robinson, Interface Pharmacy Technician	19.07.21	Updated the children's doses, in line with British National Formulary for children, Sept 20-21
V3.1	Nichola Butcher, MO and Interface Pharmacist	16/09/22	Link to CKS gastroenteritis link added (June 2022). Symptoms enhanced. Diagnose via stool sample, information included. Self-care patient information leaflet added. Treatment options removed due to difficulty obtaining diloxanide and risk of misdiagnosis. Specialist advice needed.