

333-060-0200(1), 333-062-0165(1)
Revised - September 15, 2012
Review Date – July 1, 2016

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION BULLETIN

Interpretation Manual

Fecal Accident / Protocol / Pools & Spas

State of Oregon
Oregon Health Authority
OREGON PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

Food, Pool, Lodging Health & Safety
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 640
Portland, Oregon 97232-2162
Phone (971) 673-0448 FAX (971)
673-0457



Question:

What should I do to handle fecal and vomiting accidents in the swimming pool or spa?

Background:

Oregon has been a national leader in developing a fecal accident treatment policy to address Cryptosporidium and other waterborne organisms in public swimming pools. The Centers for Disease Control have the best current information, published in a document titled; “Fecal Incident Response Recommendations for Pool Staff.”

Interpretation / Guideline:

The Oregon Health Authority recommends the use of the CDC document, it is obtainable at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/pdf/swimming/pools/fecal-incident-response-recommendations.pdf> (revised November 2010)

or our website; www.healthoregon.org/pl/Documents/cdcfecal.pdf

This document has the latest information on disinfection times at different chlorine levels for several organisms. It replaces the 2/17/2007 Oregon “Fecal Accident Protocol” document.

The pool operator should be aware of what is happening in their community. Timely response, either by treatment, closing, or swimmer restrictions can make a big difference in getting an outbreak under control.

Waterborne illnesses can be transmitted in: swimming pool water; natural bodies of water; fecal/oral transmission, and; food and drinking water. They can be intestinal, respiratory, or cause a rash or irritation of the skin, eyes, ears or nasal passages. It is the responsibility of the local health department (LPHA) to investigate any outbreak and take steps to deal with the outbreak.

This document only addresses fecal accidents. If you have an unexplained intestinal illness (especially if several people have the same symptoms), see your Doctor. If it involves any reportable disease, they will contact the LPHA. If you are unsure about what to do, consult with your LPHA. If an outbreak is occurring, the LPHA will provide you any necessary further instructions. If it involves public pools the LPHA will contact pool operators with further instructions.

Note: The LPHA is generally the local county health department.