

# Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health

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## Public Health Alert

### Increase in Cyclosporiasis Cases in Dutchess County

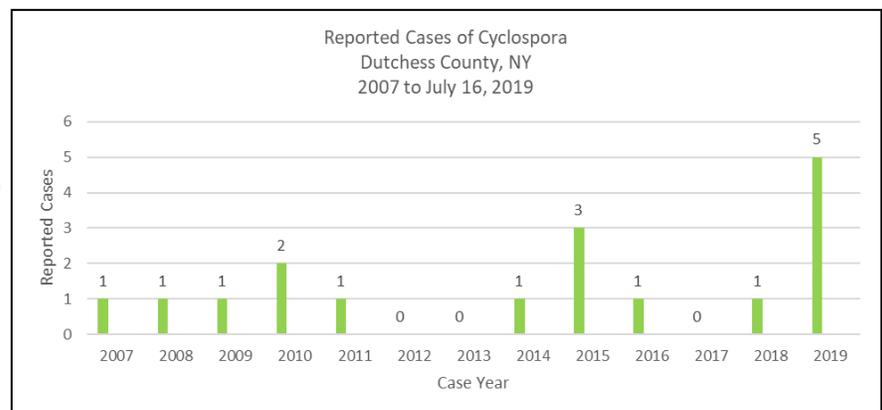
July 16, 2019 - 3PM

*Please Distribute to Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Family Planning, Primary Care, Infectious Diseases, Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Laboratory Medicine, and Infection Control.*

#### **Background:**

**NYSDOH recently distributed a Public Health Advisory for an increase in Cyclosporiasis cases. (2018=59 cases [Not including NYC], 2019 to date = 53)**

**Dutchess County is experiencing a similar trend. (2018=1; 2019 to date=5). One-tenth of the cases in the state have been reported in Dutchess County.**



**The Department of Behavioral & Community Health encourages local providers to consider the following:**

- ***Cyclospora*, an intestinal infection caused by a parasite, typically causes watery diarrhea with frequent, sometimes explosive stools. It is transmitted through fecal-contaminated water or food consumption associated with travel to tropic/subtropical areas.**
- **Healthcare providers should specifically request testing for *Cyclospora*.** Testing for *Cyclospora* is not routinely conducted in most clinical labs, even when testing for parasites. PCR panels may not include *Cyclospora*.
- **Healthcare providers must report cases of Cyclosporiasis to the Local Health Department where the patient resides.** In Dutchess County, cases are to be reported to the Department at (845) 486-3402.

To view the NYSDOH advisory in full, visit: [DutchessNY.gov/Providers](https://www.dutchessny.gov/Providers)