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### Towards general consensus on *Dientamoeba fragilis*: a case report

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**Background:** *Dientamoeba fragilis* is an anaerobic intestinal protozoan parasite. It is implicated as a cause of gastrointestinal symptoms characterized by diarrhea, vague abdominal pain. Worldwide prevalences of *D. fragilis* vary from 0.4% to 42% and whether the organism is commensal or pathogenic is still unclear. Treatment can be considered for patients with prolonged symptoms and provided no other causative agent has been found.

Case Report: A 13-year-old woman consults for a 2 years history of intermittent diarrhea with abdominal pain after travel to Spain. She had 3-4 episodes of diarrhea per year with normal health between them. In her medical history there were episodes of fever. She was in good general condition and the physical examination was normal. The blood analysis were normal and bacterial causes of infection were excluded by standard fecal culture. In fecal examinations, *D. fragilis* was detected by real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR). With these findings, the patient was considered to be *D. fragilis* infected and received antimicrobial treatment with good clinical recovery.

**Conclusion:** Since the introduction of PCR, the detection of *D. fragilis* infection has increased. However its aetiological role in gastrointestinal disease is still debated. Furthermore, excluding another causative agent can make diagnosis and treatment more difficult. This case highlights a need for general consensus on the best management of *D. fragilis* in primary care.

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