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#### **Infections with *Giardia lamblia* and other gastrointestinal parasites**

*Knut-Arne Wensaas*

*University Health Research Unit For General Practice, Bergen, Norway*

*Corresponding author: Dr Knut-Arne Wensaas, Uni Research Health, Research Unit For General Practice, Bergen, Norway. E-mail: knut-arne.wensaas@uni.no*

Gastrointestinal infections are common, and they are often of short duration and self-limiting without the patients seeking health care. Bacteria and viruses are usually the cause, but parasitic infections are still relevant to general practitioners throughout Europe. Parasites are endemic in some areas and may also be found elsewhere in isolated outbreaks. Imported cases are not uncommon as more people travel to and from other continents for business or recreation, and with the current increase in the number of refugees reaching Europe this is even more relevant. Infections caused by *Giardia lamblia* and *Cryptosporidium parvum* are well described, but in recent years there are reports of symptomatic infections with other parasites, as well. All of these parasitic infections are more challenging to diagnose because the symptoms may be less suggestive of gastroenteritis, the infections may commonly cause chronic and less specific symptoms, and the appropriate tests are often not done as part of standard investigations. Also, the indication for treatment is not clearly defined and drugs of choice are different than for bacterial infections.