**Fish Cryptosporidosis**

**Causative Agent:** *Cryptosporidium*

**Mode of Transmission:** Transmitted through the fecal oral route. Water is the most common method of transmission.

**Incubation Period:** Human: 2-10 days, 7 days is typical

Animal: same as humans

**Clinical Signs in Human:** Most who become infected never get sick. If disease does occur it may include watery diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea and a poor appetite. Vomiting, fever, and muscle aches may also occur. Young children and pregnant women are particularly susceptible to dehydration. Immunocompromised are highly susceptible to severe, persistent diarrhea.

**Clinical Signs in Animal:** Illness begins a few days after being infected. Young animals become ill most commonly and will have diarrhea, poor appetite, and weight loss. While the disease is usually mild, it can become serious or even fatal. Many animals can carry Cryptosporidium organisms without showing signs of illness.

**Control and Prevention:** Keep sick animals away from healthy animals. Clean and disinfect areas where the animal has had diarrhea. Wash hands thoroughly after contacting animal or excrement.

**Comments:** Caused by a parasite that release oocysts. Is

very resistant to chlorine disinfection.