



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DECLARATION OF REPORTABLE DISEASE PURSUANT TO 15 MISS. ADMIN. CODE PT. 2 SUBPT. 11, RULE 1.1.3

RE: Temporary Designation of Cyclosporiasis (*Cyclospora cayetanensis* Infection) as a Class 1B Reportable Disease

Pursuant to Rule 1.1.3 of the Mississippi State Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Reportable Diseases and Conditions, the State Epidemiologist, with the concurrence of the State Health Officer, may declare a disease or condition reportable for a specific period of time, not to exceed twelve (12) months, when the Mississippi State Board of Health is not in session. 15 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2, Subpt. 11, Rule 1.1.3. The purpose of this authority is to permit the rapid investigation of and response to new or emerging threats to the public health. *Id.*

Findings

Since May 1, 2026, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has received reports of 1,645 confirmed domestically acquired cases of cyclosporiasis and is aware of more than 5,100 additional reported cases requiring further analysis to determine whether they meet the case definition for domestically acquired cyclosporiasis. Multiple states have reported increases in cyclosporiasis cases compared to the same period in 2025, consistent with an ongoing multistate outbreak.

Cyclosporiasis is an intestinal illness caused by the parasite *Cyclospora cayetanensis* and is most commonly associated with consumption of contaminated fresh produce. Effective public health response requires rapid identification and reporting of suspected and confirmed cases to facilitate epidemiologic investigations, traceback activities, identification of contaminated food sources, and implementation of appropriate public health control measures.

Cyclosporiasis is not presently included among the diseases listed in Appendix A of the Rules and Regulations Governing Reportable Diseases and Conditions. Consequently, healthcare providers and clinical laboratories are not presently required to report cases to the Mississippi State Department of Health, limiting the Department's ability to promptly detect cases, investigate outbreaks, coordinate with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States Food and Drug Administration, and other state health departments, and protect the health of Mississippi residents.

The State Epidemiologist has determined that the ongoing multistate outbreak of cyclosporiasis constitutes an emerging threat to the public health requiring immediate implementation of statewide disease surveillance through mandatory reporting.

Declaration

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted by Rule 1.1.3 of the Mississippi State Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Reportable Diseases and Conditions, and with the concurrence of the State Health Officer, the State Epidemiologist hereby declares **cyclosporiasis (*Cyclospora cayetanensis* infection)** to be a **Class 1B Reportable Disease** in the State of Mississippi. 15 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2, Subpt. 11, Rule 1.1.3.

Effective immediately upon execution of this Declaration:

1. Healthcare providers shall report all suspected or confirmed cases of cyclosporiasis to the Mississippi State Department of Health no later than the close of the next business day following first knowledge or suspicion, consistent with Class 1B reporting requirements.
2. Clinical laboratories shall report all positive laboratory findings identifying *Cyclospora cayetanensis* to the Mississippi State Department of Health in accordance with Class 1B reporting requirements and shall provide any additional information requested to facilitate epidemiologic investigation.
3. Healthcare providers, clinical laboratories, and other persons subject to the reporting requirements of the Rules and Regulations Governing Reportable Diseases and Conditions shall cooperate with the Mississippi State Department of Health in the investigation of reported cases, including the provision of available clinical information, laboratory data, and food exposure histories necessary to identify common sources of infection and implement appropriate public health interventions.

This Declaration is issued pursuant to Rule 1.1.3 and constitutes a temporary designation of cyclosporiasis as a reportable disease. 15 Miss. Admin. Code Pt. 2, Subpt. 11, Rule 1.1.3. It does not permanently amend Appendix A of the Rules and Regulations Governing Reportable Diseases and Conditions. The Mississippi State Department of Health may initiate permanent rulemaking to amend Appendix A in accordance with the Mississippi Administrative Procedures Act.

This Declaration shall become effective immediately upon execution and shall remain in effect until **July 14, 2027**, unless sooner rescinded by the State Epidemiologist with the concurrence of the State Health Officer or superseded by permanent amendment to the Rules and Regulations Governing Reportable Diseases and Conditions. The Mississippi State Board of Health shall be informed of this action at its next regular meeting, as required by Rule 1.1.3. *Id.*

Renia Dotson, MD

Renia Dotson, MD, FACS, MPH, MBA
State Epidemiologist
Mississippi State Department of Health

Daniel Edney, MD

Daniel Edney, MD, FACP, FASAM
Executive Director, State Health Officer
Mississippi State Department of Health

570 East Woodrow Wilson • Post Office Box 1700 • Jackson, MS 39215-1700
601-576-8090 • 1-866-HLTHY4U • www.HealthyMS.com

Equal Opportunity in Employment/Services