

DISEASES OF CONCERN ASSOCIATED WITH SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS, AND HOT TUBS

DISEASES	Sources	Characteristics	Symptoms
Giardiasis	<i>Giardia lamblia</i> , usually young children, who contaminate the water through a bowel movement	Gastrointestinal illness	Diarrhea, cramps
Otitis externa	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> and various species of staphylococci, swimming pools with little or no disinfection.	Very common infection, also called "swimmers ear"	Itching, pain, and discharge of the ear
Swimming pool- granuloma or daphne sore	<i>Mycobacterium marinum</i> , a skin abrasion creates a portal of entry for the organism	associated with concrete, gunite (spray concrete), or masonry pools, sites of infection tend to be knees and elbows from contact with rough surfaces of pool	Nodules on the skin that may ulcerate
Genital herpes	Herpes simplex virus (HSV), is not transmitted in water, but can survive on plastic surfaces of a spa or hot tub	Contact with warm, moist environmental surfaces, such as plastic ledges, as a preventative measure, nude persons should sit on clean, dry towels when lounging around spas	Genital lesions
Follicular dermatitis	<i>Pseudomonas</i> organisms such as related to spa and hot tub use	Common sites of lesions are buttocks, hips, and trunk	Rash, itching
Pontiac fever	<i>Legionellae pneumophila</i> serotype 6; can be transmitted by aerosols generated by the agitation of the spa water	Respiratory disease; self limiting	Fever, chills, malaise and headache
Diarrheogenic <i>E. coli</i>	<i>E. coli</i> ; water contaminated with feces; found in pool or spa water with little or no disinfection	Can be prevented by properly maintaining the disinfection level in the pool and spa water and providing adequate toilet facilities	Diarrhea