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# Paratyphoid Fever



## » **About Paratyphoid Fever:**

Paratyphoid fever is a disease caused by the bacteria, *Salmonella Paratyphi*. It can cause fever, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, constipation, nonproductive cough, and lack of appetite. Diarrhea commonly occurs in children. Some people with paratyphoid fever may not have any symptoms; however, they can still spread the bacteria to others. Although rarely seen in the United States, paratyphoid fever is common in other countries around the world.

## » **How you get it?**

The bacteria must be swallowed to cause disease. This may happen when people do not wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water after using the toilet or changing diapers. People who have the bacteria on their hands may then spread them to anyone or anything they touch. If they touch food items which are not cooked enough to kill the bacteria, the person who eats the food may become sick.

## » **How soon after being exposed to the bacteria do people become sick?**

Depending on how much of the bacteria someone is exposed to, people may become sick 1-10 days after being exposed.

## » Monitor for these symptoms:



High sustained fever



Weakness



Stomach pain



Diarrhea or constipation



Cough



Loss of appetite

## » How is it diagnosed and treated?

Paratyphoid fever is diagnosed when the bacteria is found in your blood, stool or urine. People with paratyphoid fever are treated with antibiotics, generally given for 10–14 days.

## » How do you stop the spread of paratyphoid fever?

- The most important way to prevent the spread of paratyphoid fever is to thoroughly wash your hands after using the bathroom, helping a baby or child with diapers or toileting, and before preparing or eating food.
- People who are traveling outside the United States should review health information for the counties they are traveling to and take all recommended precautions including vaccination where appropriate.



For more information, visit the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/typhoid-fever/index.html>