

## NON-PATHOGENIC INTESTINAL AMOEBAS

Anything referred to as "non-pathogenic" is something that does not cause illness. The following intestinal amebas are non-pathogenic.

***Chilomastix mesnili*** (KYE-low-MASS-ticks mez-KNEE-lye)

***Endolimax nana*** (En-doe-LYE-max NAH-na)

***Entamoeba coli*** (ENT-a-ME-ba KO-lye)

***Entamoeba dispar*** (ENT-a-ME-ba DIS-par)

***Entamoeba hartmanni*** (ENT-a-ME-ba hart-MAHN-ee)

***Entamoeba polecki*** (ENT-a-ME-ba po-LECK-ee)

***Iodamoeba buetschlii*** (Eye-ODE-a-ME-ba bush-lee-eye)

These amebas are found only in the intestines and they do not harm the body. They enter the human body when a person swallows food or water that has been exposed to contaminated stool.

These amoebas can remain in a person's intestine for weeks, months or years. Studies have shown that these amebas do not make people sick. Even people who have a weakened immune system are not affected by these amoebas.

These amoebas do not require treatment. However people infected with these amoebas may also have been exposed to other organisms that can make people sick. If you are having symptoms, such as diarrhea, the cause of your illness is not the amoebas. You and your health care provider should look for another cause. The cause may be from a parasite, virus, bacteria or maybe from a non-infectious disease such as irritable bowel syndrome.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**  
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