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Protecting and improving the nation's health

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**Ref 189978**

To all GP surgeries in the BS21 and BS49 postal codes areas

Dear doctors,

**Re: Cryptosporidium oocysts detected during routine water sampling at Clevedon Water treatment works**

I am writing to inform you that low levels of *Cryptosporidium* oocysts were detected during routine water sampling at Clevedon Water Treatment Works between 21<sup>st</sup> December and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018. This treatment works is believed to supply about 7,000 properties (17,000 people approximately). To date, there have been no confirmed *Cryptosporidium* cases linked to this incident. A precautionary 'Boil-water' notice has been issued by Bristol Water to affected properties expected to remain in place until at least 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Bristol Water staff are supplying bottled water to vulnerable customers in the areas, contacting schools, hospitals and all care settings directly and hand delivering notices to properties affected by the notice.

The public have been advised that they should follow the advice from Bristol Water to boil their drinking water and allow to cool before use. If people feel unwell or experience symptoms of diarrhoea and vomiting they should contact NHS 111. If their symptoms become severe, they should contact their GP.

Public Health England Field Epidemiology Team are undertaking ongoing health surveillance to identify if any cases are linked to this incident.

We would be very grateful if you could bear this information in mind should you have any patients living in the area presenting with symptoms of watery diarrhoea, sudden onset of abdominal pain, low grade fever, nausea and/or vomiting. Could you please request a stool sample from these patients and ask that the lab test the stool for *Cryptosporidium*?

Thank you very much for your support with this incident management.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Toyin Ejidokun  
Consultant in Communicable Disease Control