

Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/cryptosporidium-and-giardia-in-cats-and-dogs-what-is-the-real-zoonotic-risk/>

This video discusses the potential zoonotic transmission of pathogens, specifically Cryptosporidium and Giardia, from companion animals like cats and dogs to humans. It notes the intimate relationship between humans and these pets and the behaviors that can increase risks, such as poor hygiene and pets sleeping in beds.

It reviews findings from over 350 studies, stating that the overall prevalence of Cryptosporidium and Giardia in pets is generally low, under 10%. Certain species, like *C. canis* and *C. felis*, are mostly host-specific, with low incidence reported in humans, primarily affecting immunocompromised individuals in low-income countries.

This video emphasizes the need for more molecular research, particularly in lower-income regions where the prevalence of these pathogens may be higher. Future studies should apply advanced molecular techniques, such as next-generation sequencing, and incorporate longitudinal designs to better understand the dynamics of transmission between pets and humans.

The conclusion drawn is that while the zoonotic risk from pets to humans is considered low overall, particularly for immunocompetent individuals, more research is needed to understand the nuances and potential risks, focusing on the limitations of current methodologies in understanding zoonotic transmission.