

Question 23 – January 12

Which of the following infectious etiologies does NOT cause bloody diarrhea?

- A. *Shigella* species
- B. *Yersinia enterocolitica*
- C. *Salmonella* species
- D. *Campylobacter jejuni*
- E. *Escherichia coli* O157:H7

Answer: B

The most common causes of bloody diarrhea, in decreasing order of frequency, are *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, *Salmonella* species, *Campylobacter jejuni*, and *Shigella* species. While *Yersinia enterocolitica* can cause diarrhea, it does not cause a bloody diarrhea.

References:

1. Talan D, Moran GJ, Newdow M, et al. Etiology of bloody diarrhea among patients presenting to United States emergency departments: Prevalence of *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 and other enteropathogens. *Clin Infect Dis* 2001;32:573-580.
2. Slutsker L, Ries AA, Greene KD, et al. *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 diarrhea in the United States: Clinical and epidemiologic features. *Ann Intern Med* 1997;126:505-513.