

Table 1. Microsporidial species pathogenic in humans, clinical manifestations and treatment.

Microsporidial species	Clinical manifestations		Treatment
	Immunocompromised patients	Immunocompetent persons	
<i>Enterocytozoon bienersi</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic diarrhea, wasting syndrome • Cholangiopathy, cholangitis, acalculous cholecystitis • Sinusitis, bronchitis, pneumonitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-limiting diarrhea • Asymptomatic carriers (?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No curative treatment available. • Clinical improvement with albendazole in some patients, but no eradication of parasites. • Preliminary results on fumagillin promising. • Antiretroviral treatment of HIV-infected persons resulting in improvement of immune function may lead to clinical improvement and eradication of parasites.
<i>Encephalitozoon intestinalis</i> (formerly <i>Septata intestinalis</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diarrhea • Cholangiopathy, cholangitis, acalculous cholecystitis • Sinusitis • Urinary tract infection, nephritis • Bone infection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-limiting diarrhea (?) • Asymptomatic carriers (?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albendazole
<i>Encephalitozoon cuniculi</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminated infection • Keratoconjunctivitis • Sinusitis, pneumonitis • Urinary tract infection, nephritis • Hepatitis • Peritonitis • Encephalitis, brain abscesses, seizure disorder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not described 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albendazole
<i>Encephalitozoon hellem</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminated infection • Keratoconjunctivitis • Sinusitis, bronchitis, pneumonia • Nephritis, ureteritis, cystitis, prostatitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not described 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albendazole
<i>Pleistophora</i> sp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myositis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not described 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unknown

<i>Trachipleistophora hominis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myositis • Keratoconjunctivitis • Sinusitis 	• not described	• Albendazole (?)
<i>Trachipleistophora anthropophthera</i>	• Disseminated infection	• not described	• unknown
<i>Vittaforma corneae</i> (formerly: <i>Nosema corneum</i>)	• Disseminated infection	• Keratitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In vitro: Albendazole effective. • No experience with chemotherapy in vivo. • Successful keratoplasty in one patient with keratitis.
<i>Brachiola connori</i> (formerly <i>Nosema connori</i>)	• Disseminated infection	• not described	• unknown
<i>Brachiola vesicularum</i>	• Myositis	• not described	• unknown
<i>Brachiola algerae</i> (formerly <i>Nosema algerae</i>)	• not described	• Keratitis	• unknown
<i>Nosema ocularum</i>	• not described	• Keratitis	• Successful corneal transplantation.
<i>Microsporidium ceylonensis</i> **	• not described	• Corneal ulcer	• unknown
<i>Microsporidium africanum</i> **	• not described	• Corneal ulcer	• unknown

* Species not yet classified

** *Microsporidium* is a collective generic name for microsporidia that can not be classified because available information is not sufficient