

STONEHILL
COLLEGE
Chlamydiosis Information Sheet

Cause: *Chlamydophila psittaci*

Occurrence in animals: wild birds and some pet birds (e.g., parrots)

Source in animals: feces or respiratory secretions

Exposure: accidental inhalation or ingestion

Symptoms:

- Animals:
 - may be asymptomatic
 - otherwise, lethargy, anorexia, and ruffled feathers
 - ocular and nasal discharge and diarrhea are possible
- Humans:
 - fever, chills, headache, malaise, muscle ache, cough
 - if not treated, it can evolve into pneumonia

Precautions:

- Good personal hygiene:
 - **WASH HANDS** after handling animals and their environment.
 - No eating, drinking, smoking, around animals.
- Healthy animals may shed microorganisms.
- Organisms can persist for several days in the environment.
- Wear gloves, safety goggles and respirator when cleaning contaminated areas

Additional information about chlamydiosis can be found at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr4908a1.htm>

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/msds-ftss/msds31e.html>

<http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/psittacosis.pdf>