



ABSTRACT

Microsporidia and *Cyclospora* spp. are two of the emerging waterborne parasites both in developed and developing countries. This study investigated the presence of these parasites in treated and untreated water sources from various geographic locations in the Province of Cavite categorized as upland, midland and lowland areas. A total of 72 samples were filtered and evaluated through microscopy and molecular analysis. For treated water, microsporidia was detected in swimming pools from upland area and in tap water from midland area. The presence of *Cyclospora* spp. was found to be in swimming pool in all areas and in tap water obtained from upland and lowland areas. Existence of microsporidia and *Cyclospora* spp. in untreated water sources were also evident in the province. Higher occurrence of these parasites collected from river and ponds were observed in lowland areas. In terms of parasite density, spores and oocysts across the areas were detected in low density. Moderate density of *Cyclospora* spp. was only concentrated from rivers in the lowland area. Moreover, this study revealed that microsporidia and *Cyclospora* spp. were ubiquitous and widely distributed in the province. Occurrence of these parasites could be attributed to poor sanitation, improper wastes disposal and management, and inadequate maintenance and treatment of treated water.

Key terms: waterborne parasites, geographic distribution