

Abstract

Most *Escherichia coli* strains live harmlessly in the intestines and rarely cause disease in healthy individuals. Diarrheal illnesses are a severe public health problem in young children. In this review, we have gathered information on current definitions, serotypes, lineages, virulence mechanisms, epidemiology, and diagnosis of the major diarrheagenic *E. coli* pathotypes.

Keywords: *Escherichia coli*, Pathogenic mechanisms, Epidemiology