

**Supplementary Table 2.** PCR cycling conditions used for the molecular identification and/or characterization of the intestinal protists investigated in the present study.

Temperature and time								
Target organism	Locus	Initial denaturation	Denaturation	Annealing	Extension	No. cycles	Final extension	Reference
<i>Giardia duodenalis</i>	<i>ssu</i> rRNA	95°C 15 min	95°C 15 s	60°C 1 min	72°C 30 s	45	–	[44]
	<i>ssu</i> rRNA	95°C 2 min	95°C 45 s	58/55°C 30 s	72°C 45 s	35	72°C 4 min	[45]
	<i>gdh</i>	95°C 3 min	95°C 30 s	55°C 30 s	72°C 1 min	35	72°C 7 min	[47]
	<i>bg</i>	95°C 7 min	95°C 30 s	65/55°C 30 s	72°C 1 min	35	72°C 7 min	[49]
	<i>tpi</i>	94°C 5 min	94°C 45 s	50°C 45 s	72°C 1 min	35	72°C 10 min	[50]
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> spp.	<i>ssu</i> rRNA	94°C 3 min	94°C 40 s	50°C 40 s	72°C 1 min	35	72°C 10 min	[51]
	<i>gp60</i>	95°C 5 min	94°C 45 s	59/50°C 45 s	72°C 1 min	35	72°C 10 min	[52]
<i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>	<i>ssu</i> rRNA	95°C 15 min	95°C 15 s	60°C 1 min	72°C 30 s	45	–	[53]
<i>Blastocystis</i> sp.	<i>ssu</i> rRNA	95°C 3 min	94°C 1 min	59°C 1 min	72°C 1 min	30	72°C 2 min	[55]

*bg*:  $\beta$ -giardin; *gdh*: Glutamate dehydrogenase; ITS: Internal transcribed spacer; *gp60*: 60 kDa glycoprotein; *ssu* rRNA: Small subunit ribosomal RNA; *tpi*: Triose phosphate isomerase.