IN THE SMALL INTESTINE trophozoites emerge from cysts, multiply and attach to the epithelium



ingestion of cysts occurs with faecally contaminated food or water

IN THE ENVIRONMENT the cysts are immediately infective and can survive for long periods (several months)

cyst

trophozites encyst in small and large intestine

IN THE FAECES cysts, each containing two trophozoites, are excreted

Life Cycle of Giardia duodenalis (syn. G. intestinalis, G. lamblia)