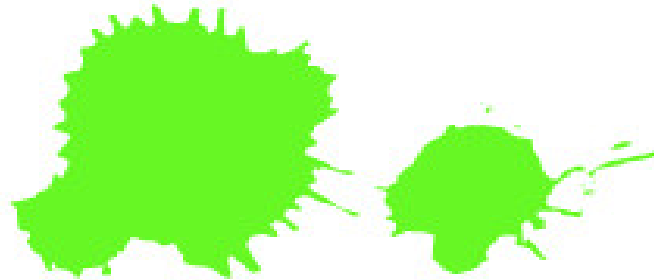
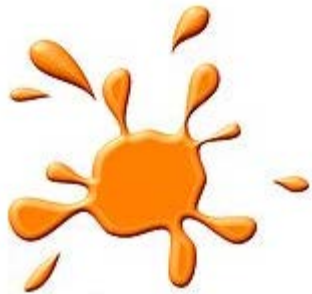
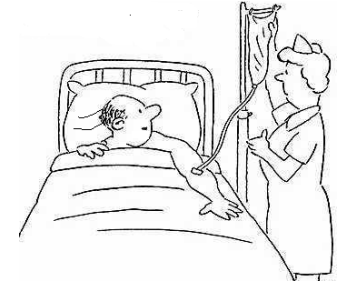


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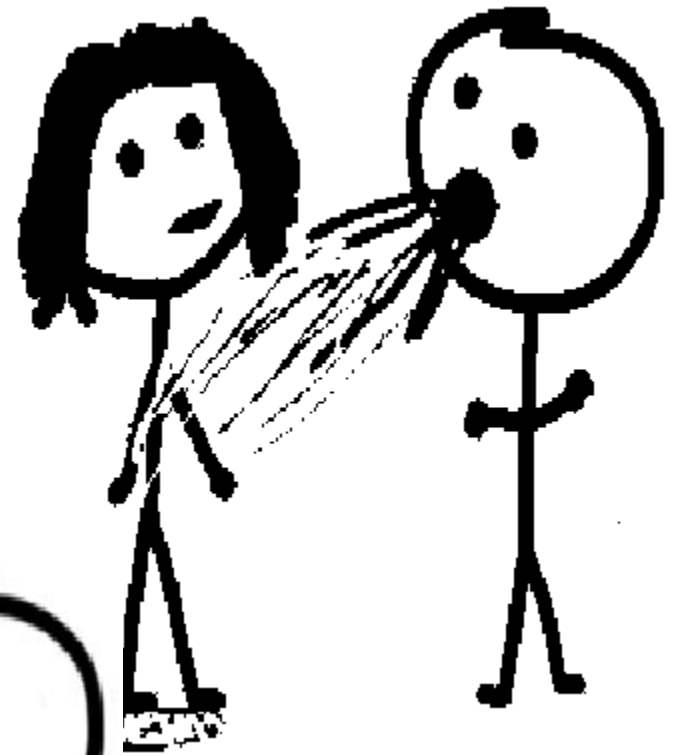
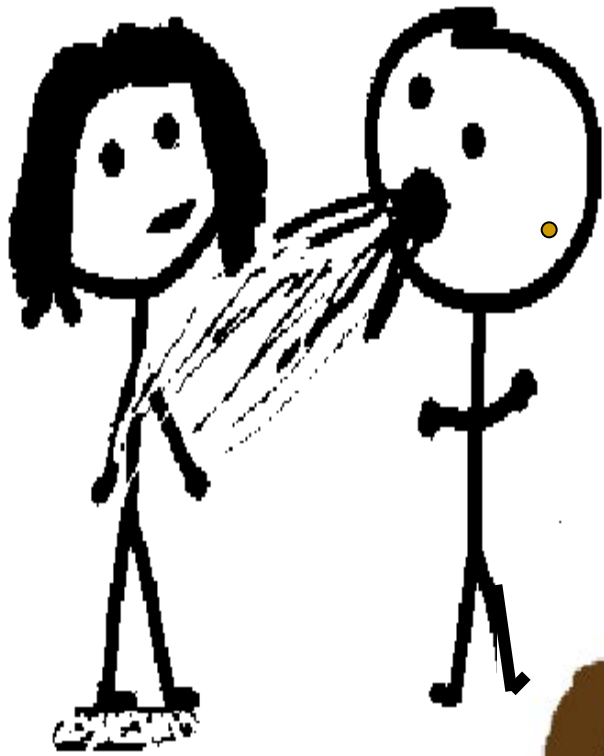
# Gastro-enteritis Outbreak (Norovirus) 2012



# Scenerio



- Patient admitted with diarrhea into 4-bed unit
- Incontinent in BR, cleaned up, returned to bed, reminded to call for assistance
- Room-mate responds to patient calling for help while vomiting, touches bedrails, locates bell and calls nurse with patient's bell. Leaves and goes to shared BR
- Nurse assists patient, exits room, returns to nursing station to chart, picks up a chocolate from box on desk and on it goes.....



innocent  
bystander

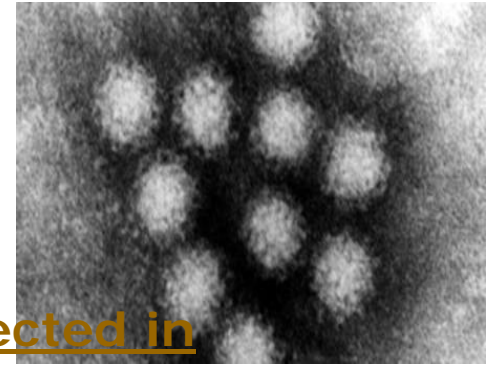
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National/World Sunday, February 05, 2012

## Virus strikes cruise ship out of New Orleans

Norovirus outbreak hits Ottawa Hospital |  
CTV Ottawa | CTV News

24 Feb 2012 – *Norovirus outbreak hits Ottawa Hospital.* Norovirus. An electron micrograph shows the Norovirus in this undated photo. (U.S. Center for ...



Norovirus now suspected in  
restaurant illness - Health - CBC  
News

[www.cbc.ca/news/health/story/2012/05/17/tbay-ecoli-victims.html](http://www.cbc.ca/news/health/story/2012/05/17/tbay-ecoli-victims.html)

6 days ago – Laboratory tests have turned up a potential new culprit in the outbreak of illness that affected at least 126 people who went to a Thunde

9 May 2012 Scientists' soccer team to a grocery bag full trace virus that struck down girls of cookies and chips left in bathroom....



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Norovirus is the most frequent cause of infectious gastroenteritis.

- Norovirus can cause vomiting, non-bloody diarrhea, nausea, and abdominal cramping.
  - Norovirus is usually spread by the faecal-oral route.
  - Outbreaks are common in environments where there are communal living conditions
-

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# What happens in healthcare facilities?

- The call
  - Infection Prevention & Control
  - Communication
  - Continued support
-

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# The Call

- Notification of Infection Prevention and Control (ICP)

# Infection and Prevention

- Isolation
- Investigation
- IPC Recommendations
- Recommended stool specimens

*C. difficile, C&S, rotavirus, norovirus, ova & parasites*

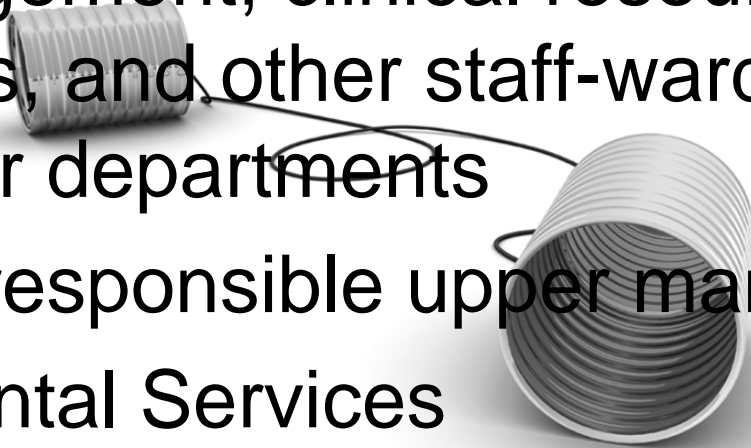
- Records
- Evaluate





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# Communication by email, telephone, directly

- Infection Control team including colleagues & Infectious Disease physicians
  - Unit management, clinical resource nurse, staff nurses, and other staff-ward clerk, ward aides, other departments
  - Directors (responsible upper management)
  - Environmental Services
  - Public Health via microbiology lab
- 
-

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# ICP Support



- Frequent contact and presence of ICP
  - Lists of recommended specimens
  - Resource
- 
- Keep up-to-date records, check specimen results and document
  - Work with Employee Health, EVS, as well as managers, and nursing staff
-

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# **An example of a Norovirus outbreak**

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# What we did

- o Call to IC on Feb 27
  - o Cohorting, isolation carts, signs, PPE, staffing
  - o Line list, twice daily updates, regular communication with nurse manager and director
  - o Decision to close unit on Feb 28 to transfers in or out, admissions. Discharges allowed. Consultation with ID physician
-

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# More

- o Visitor information and notification
  - o Accommodation for palliative patients
  - o EVS bleach rinses added to regular housekeeping, \* high touch areas and BR
  - o Hand hygiene
  - o No open food or drink at nursing station
  - o Length of isolation
-

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# Nearing the end

- 48 hours after the last symptomatic patient the unit was opened
  - Unit opened 7 days after closure
  - Communication and wrap-up
-

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Repeat again and again

