FACT SHEET

WHAT IS NOROVIRUS?

Norovirus is a highly contagious virus that can cause a person's digestive system to become inflamed. Norovirus is sometimes referred to as "food poisoning" or the "stomach flu." Although it can cause food poisoning, it is not caused by the influenza virus.

Learn more: ecolab.com/norovirus

Norovirus is one of the **LEADING CAUSES OF FOODBORNE ILLNESS OUTBREAKS** globally as well as in the European region.

Source: WHO Estimates of the Global Burden of Foodborne Diseases, 2015.

SYMPTOMS OCCUR WITHIN 24 HOURS

Source: Center for Disease Control

- Severe vomiting & diarrhea
- Nausea

- Low-grade fever & chills
- Headache or muscle aches

The amount of virus particles that fit on the head of a pin are enough to infect



Source: Journal of Medical Virology, August, 2008



Norovirus can spread **BEFORE** and **AFTER** symptoms are present

HARD TO KILL:

- Survives on surfaces and utensils for weeks
- Can remain infectious in food at freezing temperatures and even in some cooked foods
- Can resist many common disinfectants and sanitizers

Source: NACMCF.2016.JFP 79(5):843

HOW NOROVIRUS ENTERS A RESTAURANT



EMPLOYEES



CUSTOMERS



FOOD CONTAMINATED AT ITS SOURCE

FOODS TYPICALLY IMPLICATED INCLUDE

SALADS AND SANDWICHES OR OTHER READY-TO-EAT ITEMS, OR RAW OYSTERS HARVESTED FROM SEWAGE-CONTAMINATED GROWING WATERS.

Source: US Center for Disease Control



HOW NOROVIRUS SPREADS

Noroviruses are found in feces or vomit of infected people and can be spread easily.





TOUCHING CONTAMINATED PEOPLE. OBJECTS OR SURFACES

BREATHING AIRBORNE VIRUS PARTICLES

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7 Learn more: ecolab.com/norovirus



MINIMISE THE SPREAD

