

GI Outbreak Suspected

Consultation and Notification:	Done	Initial	Comments
<p>For VCH owned and operated facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mon-Fri, during regular office hours, notify your area Infection Control Practitioner (ICP) • After regular office hours, or on weekends and statutory holidays, notify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VA & Coastal Acute Sites : Medical Microbiologist on call 604-875-5000 ○ Richmond Acute: Pathologist on call 604-278- 9711 local 4143 ○ Long Term Care: Medical Health Officer on call 604-527-4893 			
Action (If outbreak is suspected by the designate above):	Done	Initial	Comments
<p>1. Immediately isolate all patients/residents on Contact Plus Precautions having:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 or more episodes of diarrhea within a 24 hr period, OR • 2 or more episodes of vomiting within a 24 hr period, OR • 1 episode each of vomiting and diarrhea within a 24 hr period, OR • 1 episode of bloody diarrhea, OR • Positive stool culture of a known enteric pathogen AND gastroenteritis symptoms that cannot be attributed to another cause; add Facial Protection if vomiting/explosive diarrheal stools/flushing vomit or diarrhea. 			
<p>2. Alert stores that additional hand hygiene products, gloves, gowns, mask with face shields will be required.</p>			
<p>3. Collect diarrhea stool specimen (preferred) in C & S container, or vomitus if patient does not have diarrhea. Label specimens with patient label; add “(Suspect) Outbreak Label”</p>			
<p>4. All facilities forward outbreak specimens to Laboratory for testing</p>			
<p>5. Discuss outbreak with ICP/Med Micro/MHO or designate and implement control measures as directed</p>			
<p>6. Begin a line list of patients/residents with symptoms and a separate line list of symptomatic staff</p>			
<p>7. Implement strategies to prevent or manage dehydration (Vancouver Community Residential Care sites, Richmond and Coastal sites)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind staff about risks of dehydration during outbreak episodes. • Identify at risk residents: inform dietitian, pharmacist and MRP. • Contact Central food Services (Sodexo) to supply extra water/juice jugs to residents on the unit • Consider reviewing diet order request: e.g. extra fluids on meal trays/switch to full fluid diet as appropriate. • Follow Early Detection and Prevention of Dehydration in older adults guide. 			