

Community Gastrointestinal (GI) Case Communication Algorithm

GI Case Definition:

- 2 or more episodes of diarrhea (Bristol stool chart 6 or 7) within a 24 hour period, above what is considered normal for that individual (and not related to laxative use) **OR**
- 2 or more episodes of vomiting within a 24 hour period **OR**
- 1 episode each of vomiting and diarrhea within a 24 hour period **OR**
- 1 episode of bloody diarrhea **OR**
- Lab confirmation of a known enteric pathogen with at least one symptom compatible with a GI infection (see above)

Site has 1 – 2 cases of GI illness that meet the case definition

Frontline Staff:

- Notify site leadership of GI activity
- Initiate a paper line list to keep track of symptomatic clients
- Place clients on Contact Plus Precautions (add Droplet if client vomiting)

Site Leadership:

- Initiate the electronic line list to keep track of symptomatic cases
- Email the Ambulatory and Community team to notify of GI activity
- Implement the containment measures in the Community Viral GI Toolkit

Infection Control Practitioner (ICP):

- ICP providing site coverage will respond via email or phone with recommendations as required.
- ICPs work Monday – Friday
- For urgent issues Saturday, Sunday, STATs email ICP-ChargeRN@vch.ca or Call ICP In-Charge RN: 604-220-5813

Site has 3 cases of GI illness that meet case definition in a 4 day period

GI Outbreak Definition:

3 or more clients that meet the case definition for viral GI illness on the same unit or site within a 4 day period

Site Leadership:

When outbreak definition met, send an electronic line list to:

Monday - Friday

CDEHO@vch.ca
ICP-ambulatorycommunity@vch.ca
VCHMedMicroIPAC@vch.ca

Saturday, Sunday and STATs:

CDEHO@vch.ca
MHOandCDNurseOnCall@vch.ca
ICP-ambulatorycommunity@vch.ca
VCHMedMicroIPAC@vch.ca
ICP-ChargeRN@vch.ca
Call ICP In-Charge RN: 604-220-5813

Email line list daily until 4 days/96 hours (2 incubation periods) after resolution of symptoms in the last case or the outbreak is declared over by the MHO.

Implement the outbreak containment measures listed in the Community Viral GI Toolkit.

Infection Control Practitioner (ICP):

When threshold for Outbreak reached, ICP to email # of clients on the unit, # of staff, shared spaces on the units to:

CDEHO@vch.ca
ICP-ambulatorycommunity@vch.ca
VCHMedMicroIPAC@vch.ca

Frontline Staff:

- Continue paper line list.
- Collect specimens and follow directions in the Community Viral GI Toolkit to send specimens to Vancouver General Hospital Laboratory.
- Once organism identified in 2 separate specimens, no further specimens required.