



Clean-Up Procedures for Vomit/Fecal Accidents



The 2017 FDA Food Code requires that all food establishments have a procedure for responding to vomiting and diarrheal events.

This requirement is also specified under regulation 228.45 of the Texas Food Establishment Rules.

A food establishment shall have procedures for employees to follow when responding to vomiting or diarrheal events that involve the discharge of vomitus or fecal matter onto surfaces in the food establishment. The procedure shall address the specific actions employees must take to minimize the spread of contamination and the exposure of the employees, consumers, food, and surfaces to vomitus or fecal matter.

Effective cleaning of vomitus and fecal matter in a food establishment should be handled differently from routine cleaning procedures.

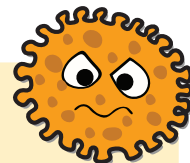
Vomiting and diarrheal accidents should be cleaned up using the following recommended steps:

- Segregate the area.
- Wear disposable gloves during cleaning. To help prevent the spread of disease, it is recommended that a disposable mask and/or gown (or apron) be worn when cleaning liquid matter.
- Wipe up the matter with towels and dispose into a plastic garbage bag.
- Mix a chlorine bleach solution that is stronger than the chlorine solution used for general cleaning (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends 1000-5000 ppm or 5-25 tablespoons of household bleach (2.25%) per gallon of water.
Note: quaternary ammonia is not an effective sanitizer of Norovirus.
- Apply the bleach solution and allow it to remain wet in the affected area for at least 10 minutes. Allow to air dry. Dispose of any remaining sanitizer solution once the accident has been cleaned up.
- Discard gloves, mask, and cover gown (or apron) in a plastic bag.
- Take measures to dispose of and/or clean and disinfect the tool and equipment used to clean up vomit and fecal matter.
- Properly wash hands.
- Discard any food that may have been exposed.
- Minimize the risk of disease transmission through the prompt removal of ill employees, customers, and others from areas of food preparation, service, and storage.

Clean-up and Disinfection for Norovirus ("Stomach Bug")

THESE DIRECTIONS SHOULD BE USED TO RESPOND TO ANY VOMITING OR DIARRHEA ACCIDENT

Note: Anything that has been in contact with vomit and diarrhea should be discarded or disinfected.



1 Clean up

a. Remove vomit or diarrhea right away!

- Wearing protective clothing, such as disposable gloves, apron and/or mask, wipe up vomit or diarrhea with paper towels
- Use kitty litter, baking soda or other absorbent material on carpets and upholstery to absorb liquid; do not vacuum material: pick up using paper towels
- Dispose of paper towel/waste in a plastic trash bag or biohazard bag

b. Use soapy water to wash surfaces that contacted vomit or diarrhea and all nearby high-touch surfaces, such as door knobs and toilet handles

c. Rinse thoroughly with plain water

d. Wipe dry with paper towels

DON'T STOP HERE: GERMS CAN REMAIN ON SURFACES EVEN AFTER CLEANING!

2 Disinfect surfaces by applying a chlorine bleach solution

Steam cleaning may be preferable for carpets and upholstery. Chlorine bleach could permanently stain these. Mixing directions are based on EPA-registered bleach product directions to be effective against norovirus.

For best results, consult label directions on the bleach product you are using.

a. Prepare a chlorine bleach solution

Make bleach solutions fresh daily; keep out of reach of children; never mix bleach solution with other cleaners.

IF HARD SURFACES ARE AFFECTED...
e.g., non-porous surfaces, vinyl, ceramic tile, sealed counter-tops, sinks, toilets

3/4 CUP OF CONCENTRATED BLEACH + **1 GALLON WATER**

CONCENTRATION ~3500 ppm

IF USING REGULAR STRENGTH BLEACH (5.25%), INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF BLEACH TO 1 CUP.

b. Leave surface wet for at least 5 minutes

c. Rinse all surfaces intended for food or mouth contact with plain water before use

3 Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water

Hand sanitizers may not be effective against norovirus.

Facts about Norovirus

Norovirus is the leading cause of outbreaks of diarrhea and vomiting in the US, and it spreads quickly.

Norovirus spreads by contact with an infected person or by touching a contaminated surface or eating contaminated food or drinking contaminated water. Norovirus particles can even float through the air and then settle on surfaces, spreading contamination.

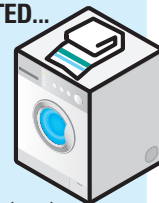
Norovirus particles are extremely small and billions of them are in the stool and vomit of infected people.

Any vomit or diarrhea may contain norovirus and should be treated as though it does.

People can transfer norovirus to others for at least three days after being sick.

IF CLOTHING OR OTHER FABRICS ARE AFFECTED...

- Remove and wash all clothing or fabric that may have touched vomit or diarrhea
- Machine wash these items with detergent, hot water and **bleach** if recommended, choosing the longest wash cycle
- Machine dry



Scientific experts from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) helped to develop this poster. For more information on norovirus prevention, please see <http://www.cdc.gov/norovirus/preventing-infection.html>.



co.somerset.nj.us/health



neha.org



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