

Gastroenteritis or Noro-Like Illness Outbreak in Island Health

IPAC/MHO complete investigation and risk YES assessment: **OUTBREAK DECLARED** NO Maintain Enhanced Measures (GI-2) Access Outbreak Playbook Immediate response actions (Section 3) OMS Structure (Section 4b)

Staff:

- Symptomatic staff are excluded from work until symptoms resolved for at least 48 hrs.
- Notify <u>PWHCC</u> if symptoms develop

Unit Lead/Designate

- Post OUTBREAK sign at door and PRECAUTION signage at patient room/bed space, directing visitors to the nursing station prior to visiting
- Complete GI Tracking List
- Submit updates to: ICP (Island Health) or Environmental Health Officer (EHO) (Affiliates) each morning
- Advise symptomatic staff to contact:
 - <u>Provincial Workplace Health Contact Centre</u> (Island Health Staff)
 - their family physician (Affiliate staff)
- Provide safety information to visitors, i.e., hand hygiene, correct donning/doffing of PPE as required

Additional Precautions

- Discuss bed closures, admissions, transfers and discharges with OMS
- Cancel communal dining and group activities for affected patients/units
- Encourage symptomatic patients to stay in room
- Clinical appointments may be postponed, if necessary
- ICP/EHO to complete risk assessment on exposed patients in multi-bed rooms and request additional precautions, if necessary

Housekeeping

 Housekeeping participates in OMS, operationalizing actions and maintaining **Precautions Plus** cleaning for affected rooms and all common areas
Refer to outbreak cleaning guideline A Viral Gastroenteritis or Noro-Like Illness Outbreak will be declared over:

Island Health Facilities: by IPAC in collaboration with MM

Affiliates: by the EHO Program in collaboration with MHO

GI/NLI Outbreaks will be declared over:

- 4 days from the onset of symptoms in the most recent patient or
- 2 days after last symptoms in a staff member.

The time can be extended but not shortened.