

True or False?

Norovirus is the leading cause of illness from food in the United States.

TRUE. It causes 19-21 million illnesses each year.

You can only get norovirus in the winter.

FALSE. You can get it at any time during the year. But, it is most common in the winter.

Someone that doesn't have any symptoms can't spread norovirus.

FALSE. People that have had norovirus can still spread the virus for up to 2 weeks — even if they're feeling better!

Norovirus can live on surfaces like counters, door knobs, and phones.

TRUE. Norovirus can live on surfaces from one to seven weeks. Contact with those surfaces can make you sick. Wash your hands frequently!

For More Information

**Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention**
www.cdc.gov

**Cuyahoga County
Board of Health**
www.ccbh.net

Ohio Department of Health
www.odh.ohio.gov

**U.S. Food and Drug
Administration**
www.fda.gov

CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

5550 Venture Drive Parma, Ohio 44130
216-201-2000 www.ccbh.net



Preventing Norovirus in a Food Business



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
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Preventing Norovirus is Simple!

Avoid preparing food for others while you are sick and for at least 48 hours after symptoms stop.

Wash your hands carefully and often with soap and water, especially after using the restroom and before touching food.

Gloves or utensils should be used when touching ready-to-eat foods.

Wash fruits and vegetables and cook seafood thoroughly.

Clean and sanitize kitchen utensils, counters, and surfaces routinely.

Wash table linens, napkins, and other laundry thoroughly.



What Do You Do if an Employee is Sick?

An employee should not be preparing food if they have any of these symptoms:

- nausea
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- jaundice (yellow skin or eyes)
- sore throat with fever
- open lesions

Wait for a doctor's note or until the employee does not have any more symptoms to let the employee prepare food again.

Call the Cuyahoga County Board of Health at 216-201-2091 with questions or to report very contagious diseases like norovirus.

Visit our website at www.ccbh.net for more information on easily spread diseases like norovirus.



What is Norovirus?

You may already know it as “**food poisoning**” or the “**stomach flu.**”

Norovirus is a highly contagious virus that can make you very sick with diarrhea, throwing up, and stomach pain.

Because norovirus can be spread through food, it's important that you and your staff take steps to protect yourselves and your customers.