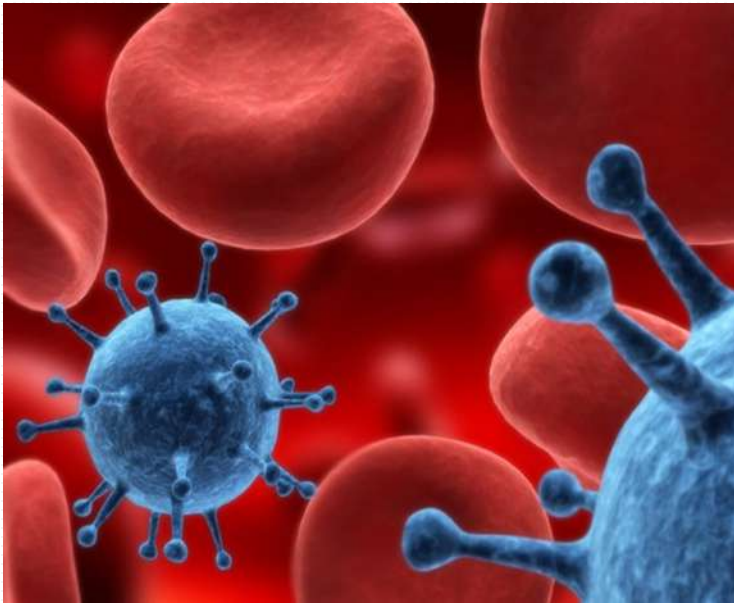


# 'A proactive approach to infection control'

- Stopping the spread of infection
- Developing a cleaning service
- Looking to external markets and income generation

# Stopping the spread of infection



# Purpose

The services provided by your organisation could be severely disrupted if a number of your staff/other personnel who work for you become infected. It is therefore in your interests to protect both your staff and service users from the risk of infection as far as is reasonably practicable. We are responsible for the welfare needs of everyone.

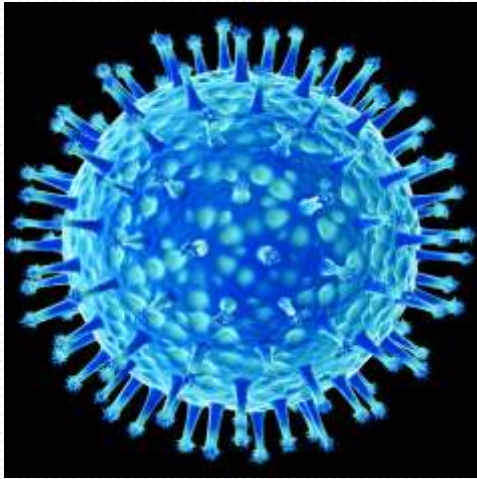


# Prevention – Easy?

- Don't have any contact with people or any form of life.
- Don't go anywhere with people or animals have been.
- Don't touch anything without full sterile PPE
- Don't eat anything that has not been prepared safely.
- Only breath a reliable source of clean air.



# 2009 H1N1 Pandemic UK



- Expected deaths 60,000
- 50% of all persons suffering from Flu were actual suffering from the virus.
- 1 in 5 people were carrying the virus.
- Total cost spent by government £1.24 billion pounds.
- Government stock piled enough vaccine for each person in the UK
- **Actual deaths 487.**



# Cost of absence



- Public sector 7.9 days Private sector 5.5 days
- The overall median cost of absence per employee £609 (£914 public sector)
- two-thirds of working time lost to absence is accounted for by short-term absences
- 80-82% of short term absence is due to Minor illness (for example colds/flu, stomach upsets, headaches and migraines)
- £487 for every full time employee a year.
- 3.1% of staff budgets lost to minor illness.

# Current Position

- Rhinovirus is on the increase
- In Scotland, deaths from respiratory illness is 5% greater than expected.
- Rotavirus is at a 10 year high.
- 95% of the current Norovirus confirmed is the Sydney 2012 strain
- 1.2 million people in the UK will contract Norovirus
- 8 million people can be carrying the virus at any time.

# Delict (Scots law)

“Under delict it must be proven that you owe a **duty of care** to a person or persons, that you have breached this duty of care (i.e. taken insufficient precautions to prevent harm), it is fair, just and reasonable to impose a duty of care in the circumstances and that there is a causal link between your wrong and the loss suffered by the person/s in question”

Foreseeability, Probability & Severity of Injury

Availability of Precautions



# Coming in contact



- Working with animals.
- Working with people who might be infectious.
- Handling waste material that may be contaminated with micro-organisms.
- Working in an environment or with equipment that could be contaminated.



# Sources

There are four main sources of infection that you need to consider in a workplace:

- blood and other body fluids (e.g. saliva) and sources of blood/body fluids such as human bodies, animal carcasses and raw meat;
- human or animal waste products such as faeces, urine and vomit;
- respiratory discharges such as coughs and sneezes; and
- Skin – direct contact.

# Transmission

Infection at work can occur via:

- putting contaminated hands and fingers (or pens etc.) into the mouth, nose or eyes;
- breathing in infectious aerosols/droplets from the air, e.g. respiratory discharges such as coughs and sneezes;
- splashes of blood and other body fluids into the eye and other mucous membranes, such as the nose and the mouth;
- broken skin if it comes into direct contact with the micro-organism (or something contaminated by micro-organisms);
- A skin-penetrating injury, e.g. via a contaminated needle or other sharp object or through a bite by an infected person, animal or insect.

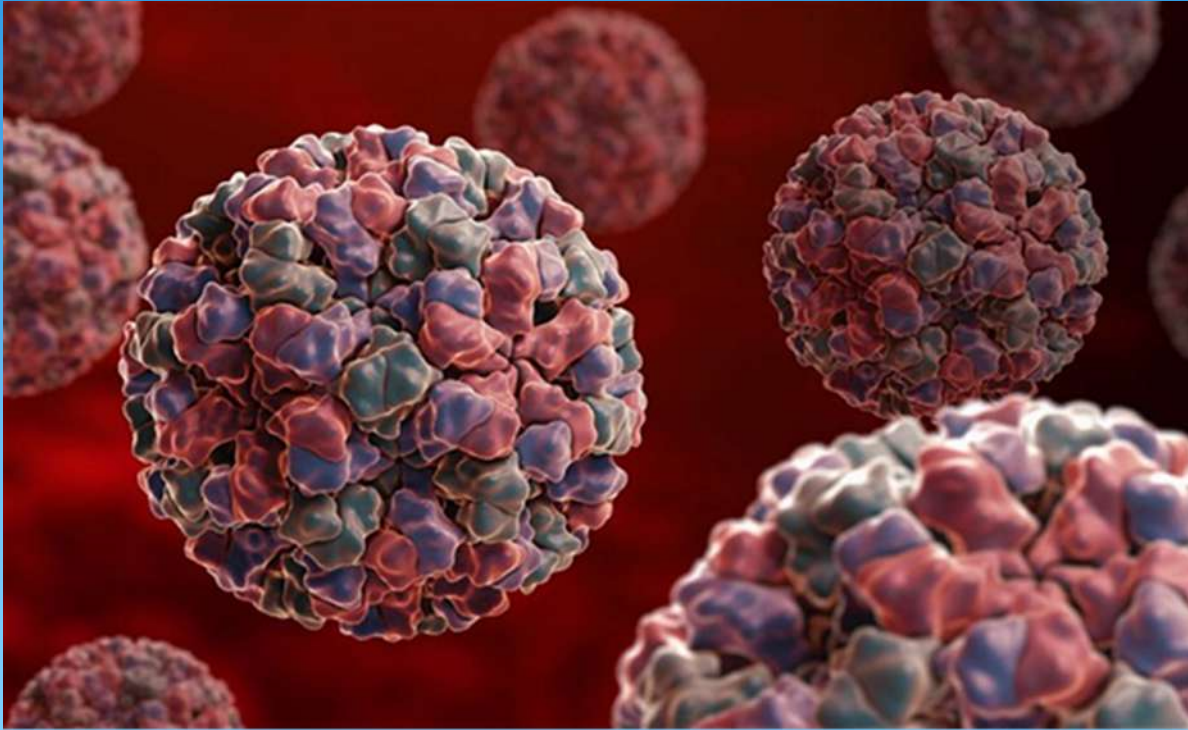
# Cleaning Basic Prevention

- Training of staff
- Suitable PPE and Equipment
- Cleaning specification
- Frequency of cleaning
- Risk Assessment
- Safe Methods of work
- Personal Hygiene
- Colour Coding
- Reporting illness
- Managing waste and replenishing consumables

# Improving infection prevention

- Training regarding infection control
- Infection Control Policy – Procedures
- Everybody's Responsibility
- Sharing information
- Action Planning, outbreaks, body spills, contingency planning

# Norovirus



# Preventing norovirus spreading

Norovirus is easily spread.

Following the measures below can help prevent the virus spreading.

- wash your hands frequently
- don't share towels and flannels
- regularly disinfect hand contact areas and food preparation surfaces
- Excluding persons from areas where somebody has vomited.
- Staying at home if you have any symptoms of the virus.

# Outbreaks of norovirus in public places

- it can stay for weeks on hard surfaces,
- 12 days on contaminated fabrics,
- And it can survive for months in contaminated still water.

If you have norovirus, you may continue to be infectious for a short period after your symptoms stop. You should therefore avoid preparing food and any direct contact with others for at least 48 hours **after** your symptoms disappear.



# Recognition

## Definition of an outbreak

- \* **OUTBREAK** - An incident in which 2 or more people, thought to have a common exposure, experience a similar illness or proven infection (at least one of them being ill).



# Action outbreaks?

- \* The three most important practical aspects of the management of diarrhoea and vomiting outbreaks are:
  1. Exclusion: Exclude affected persons until symptom free for 48 hours
  2. Enhanced cleaning of equipment and environment
  3. Effective hand washing

# Preventative cleaning

Preventative **cleaning and disinfection** is the single most important factor in preventing the spread of the virus and if carried out effectively it should reduce the risk of further spread of infection.

Two effective methods of disinfection against such viruses; Temperature above 70°C and the use of Hypochlorite (bleach) based solution at 1000ppm (0.1%) dilution.

# A chlorine-based disinfectant (bleach) has several disadvantages.

- Toxic to environment
- Corrosive to individuals (severe burns to skin and eyes)
- Irritant (respiratory irritation) (asthma)
- Damage to surfaces, furnishings and materials (stripping/fading/discolouration)
- Poisoning (36% of all children poisoned is due to bleach)
- Short shelf life (3 months)
- Chlorine Gas (contact with acids)

# AHP



Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide (OXIVIR PLUS) is the preferred disinfection used by the ACC Cleaning Service for the following reasons:

- It's effectiveness on viruses.
- It's cleaning properties.
- It's safety to our staff and the public.
- It can be used on most hard and soft surfaces.
- It has a 2 year shelf life.

# Preventative Measures

- All sites should have spills kits and staff trained in the use of these kits and environmental cleaning.
- All incidents of sickness during the day must be reported to the cleaning staff, so enhanced cleaning can be safely undertaken.
- Ensure supplies of PPE, cleaning equipment and cleaning chemicals are adequate. Where necessary, ensure that it is thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and stored in a dry condition.
- A cleaning sink with hot and cold water should be designated for the exclusive use of cleaning staff. It must NOT be within any food preparation area.
- Designate specific changing and washing facilities for cleaning staff, including hot and cold water, liquid bactericidal soap and paper towels.

# Preventative Actions

- During an outbreak routine cleaning of public/staff sanitary accommodation will need to be increased in frequency to at least four times per day, preferably hourly, and after any incidence of soiling or contamination. This may need to increase if there is evidence that the outbreak is not under control.
- When sickness occurs the affected area(s) must be cordoned off prior to cleaning being undertaken. Ventilated. Some form of hazard warning tape/signage is recommended to prevent access. Remember viral particles can travel a long way, so don't confine the cordoned off area to just the immediate area of contamination. Where possible the areas to be cleaned and cordoned off should extend to at least 3 m around the area of gross contamination in all directions.

- Developing a cleaning service
- Looking to external markets and income generation

