



## Norovirus outbreak on Hawaiian waters

Virus sickened 67 passengers and 14 staff during a January cruise on Pride of America

- Some norovirus infections occur without symptoms
- Infected people can shed large amounts of norovirus in their vomit and poop
- Viral shedding (passing of the virus in poop) can sometimes occur for 3 weeks after symptoms have resolved
- The majority of reported norovirus outbreaks are associated with food service settings or events
- Norovirus can persist on common kitchen surfaces for at least 3-6 weeks
- Some hand sanitizers are not effective at reducing norovirus on hands



Norovirus outbreaks have been linked to food handlers who have recently cared for norovirus-infected family members



A norovirus outbreak, resulting in vomit and diarrhea for dozens of passengers and staff, occurred during a January 17th-24th cruise in Hawaiian waters aboard Norwegian Cruise Line's "Pride of America."

"Norovirus is something that is always a problem in a confined environment where there are multiple different people coming together," said Dr. Alan Tice,

infectious disease consultant. "Sometimes the diarrhea can be so bad that it is serious and occasionally people have to be hospitalized for it and it can be very miserable."

Proper handwashing and thorough sanitation are important control measures for norovirus outbreaks, whether on cruise ships, child care settings or in restaurants.