



Clean-up Procedures for Vomit and Diarrhea Event

When someone vomits, disease-causing organisms such as norovirus can spread through the air and contaminate surfaces and food up to 25 feet away. Consumers and employees are at risk of contracting norovirus or other illnesses from exposure to vomit or diarrhea.

Effective clean-up of vomit and diarrhea in a food establishment should be handled differently from routine cleaning procedures and involves a more stringent cleaning and disinfecting process.

A clean-up and response plan is intended to address proper procedures to reduce exposures to norovirus or other disease-causing organisms. Anything that has been in contact with vomit and diarrhea should be discarded or disinfected. Timely and effective clean-up is imperative.

Immediate Response

1. Remove all individuals within a 25-foot radius and ask them to wash their hands immediately.
2. Block entry to the contaminated area.
3. Ask anyone who is or maybe ill to leave the establishment.

Clean Up

1. Put on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Minimally this should include disposable gloves and mask. It is recommended to also wear gown/apron and shoe covers if available.
2. Remove vomit or diarrhea.
 - Work from the clean areas towards the most contaminated areas to minimize the spread of infectious material. (*Work outward in*)
 - Wipe up vomit or diarrhea with paper towels by placing the paper towel over the waste then carefully wiping.
 - Use kitty litter, baking soda, or other absorbent material on carpets and upholstery to absorb liquid. DO NOT vacuum the material. Pick up material using paper towels.
 - Place rags, paper towels, and other contaminated materials in a plastic garbage bag. Seal the bag with duct tape and place in the disposal area.
 - Contaminated table cloths, cloth napkins, and cloth towels should be placed into a separate plastic bag for transport to laundry.
3. Use soapy water to wash surfaces that contacted the vomit or diarrhea and all nearby high-touch surfaces such as door knobs, door handles and toilet handles.
4. Rinse these areas with plain water.
5. 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 the items.



Disinfect

1. Disinfect all surfaces, high-touch areas, and equipment within a 25-foot radius of the vomit or diarrhea
2. Prepare a chlorine bleach solution by adding $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of bleach to one gallon of water.
3. Disinfect the surfaces by applying the chlorine bleach solution.
 - Use a spray bottle and saturate the area and surfaces within a 25-foot radius of the vomit or diarrhea.
 - Any surfaces and equipment which are unlikely to have food or mouth contact should be allowed to air-dry.
 - Rinse all surfaces intended for food or mouth contact with plain water before use.
4. Steam cleaning may be preferable for carpets and upholstery. Chlorine bleach could permanently stain these areas.
5. Remove all PPE and place into a plastic garbage bag, seal closed with duct tape, and place in the disposal area.
6. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water. Hand sanitizers may NOT be effective against some disease-causing organisms.

Training Videos:

- CDC - Controlling Norovirus for a Safer Facility: The Kitchen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZTjXf5t3hQ>
- CDC - Clean Up After Someone with Norovirus Vomits or has Diarrhea Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TAKH4jakLYA>
- Donning of Doffing of gloves: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xueBYfEIFEg>
- Vomiting Larry - simulated, humanoid vomiting system whose purpose is to help with research into Norovirus and other infections involving projectile vomiting. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLDSNvQjXe8>

Clean up Kit

1. Caution Tape or Rope
2. Disposable gloves
3. Face mask
4. Baking soda or other absorbent material
5. Paper towel
6. Plastic garbage bags
7. Duct tape or other durable tape
8. Bleach
9. Liquid Soap
10. Gown/apron (recommended)
11. Shoe covers (recommended)