

Signs and Symptoms of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) and Gastrointestinal (GI) Illness

ILI case definition	GI illness case definition
<p><i>Adult:</i> Sudden onset of NEW cough or change in existing cough, fever, PLUS one of the following: fever, sore throat, joint pain, muscle aches, severe exhaustion (Note: Patients >65 yrs may not have fever).</p> <p><i>Pediatric:</i> Sudden onset of any of the following: runny nose, cough, sneezing, +/- fever, GI symptoms may be present.</p>	<p>At least ONE of the following criteria must be met and not be attributed to another cause (Clostridium difficile, medications, laxatives, diet or prior medical condition etc):</p> <p>-2 or more episodes of diarrhea (i.e. loose or watery stools) in a 24 hour period, above what is normally expected for that individual OR -2 or more episodes of vomiting in a 24 hour period OR -1 or more episodes of vomiting AND diarrhea in a 24 hour period OR -Positive stool culture of a known enteric pathogen AND at least one symptom compatible with a GI infection (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or tenderness) OR -1 episode of bloody diarrhea</p>

Is it an outbreak?

ILI outbreak definition	GI illness outbreak definition
<p><i>2 or more cases of ILI within a 7 day period with a common link (same location or caregiver, and evidence of healthcare-associated transmission within the unit or facility).</i></p>	<p><i>2 or more cases of GI illness within 48 hours with a common link (same location or caregiver, and evidence of healthcare-associated transmission within the unit or facility).</i></p>

What to do if you suspect an outbreak

- **Immediately notify the charge nurse** (who notifies the site/unit manager).
- **Implement initial Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) Measures**
 - Strict hand hygiene is the most important measure in preventing spread of infections (follow the 4 Moments of Hand Hygiene)
 - Restriction of symptomatic patients (ILI: **Contact and Droplet Precautions**, GI: **Contact Precautions**, patients actively vomiting: **Contact and Droplet Precautions**).
- **Refer to and follow ILI or GI illness outbreak management algorithms.**

Refer to "Guidelines for Outbreak Prevention, Control and Management in Acute Care and Facility Living Sites (Includes Influenza and Gastrointestinal Illness) July2018"

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/Diseases/hi-dis-flu-prov-hlsl.pdf>

Further information can be found on the AHS IPC website <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/6410.asp> and in the IPC Acute Care Resource Manual <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/6854.asp>