



Public Health
Division

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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Press Release

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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, CA – Santa Cruz County Health Agency is concerned about the potential for a significant norovirus outbreak in Santa Cruz County. We have already had an outbreak at a Boulder Creek camp with 28 children plus staff sickened.

There have been over 1200 cases in Yolo County schools and at least 200 students in ten schools in the San Jose Unified School District.

Though this virus is common, this is an unusually high incidence of cases. Norovirus is generally a mild illness with associated nausea, vomiting and diarrhea lasting from 1-3 days. People are infectious prior to symptoms and for several days after symptoms begin. The primary danger is dehydration which, in severe cases can lead to hospitalization. People with vomiting and or diarrhea should stay home for at least 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

To protect yourself and others, it is important that everyone practice proper hand hygiene by often washing your hands carefully with soap and water, especially after using the bathroom or changing diapers and before preparing food. In addition, any household (or institution) who has had people ill with vomiting and or diarrhea, should clean all surfaces (toilets, counters, etc.) with a bleached based household cleaner as directed on the product label.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Santa Cruz County