

Norovirus associated with Anthony's HomePort in Des Moines

AT-A-GLANCE

- **Cases:** 45
- **Hospitalizations:** 0
- **Deaths:** 0
- **Status:** Investigation is completed
- **Location:** Anthony's HomePort, 421 S. 227th St, Des Moines, WA
- **Event date:** May 13, 2018
- **Prior food safety inspections and current rating?** [Excellent](#)

Highlights

Updated June 5, 2018

Summary

Public Health investigated an outbreak of norovirus with nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea associated with Anthony's Homeport in Des Moines.

Illnesses

Since May 15, Public Health has learned of 37 people from 11 separate meal parties who became ill after consuming food and beverage at Anthony's HomePort (upper level) on May 13, 2018. We have since identified at least 8 employees who experienced similar symptoms dating back to May 14.

Public Health actions

Environmental Health investigators visited the restaurant on May 15. Anthony's HomePort shares a building with Anthony's Oyster Bar & Grill. The two businesses are permitted separately and do not share a kitchen, but do occasionally share staff. An employee of Anthony's HomePort (located upstairs) vomited in the downstairs restroom on May 16. Following this event, the restroom was closed, cleaned, and disinfected, and the employee was sent home.

During the field visit on May 15, investigators learned of possible ill employees. The restaurant was required to conduct a thorough cleaning and disinfection before continuing business operations the following day. Ill staff are not allowed to return to work until they are symptom-free for at least 48 hours. In addition, all foods processed prior to the restaurant being cleaned and disinfected were discarded.

Investigators revisited the restaurant on May 16 to confirm proper cleaning and disinfection was completed. Investigators reviewed the requirement that ill staff are not allowed to work until they are symptom-free for at least 48 hours, and they provided education about preventing the spread of norovirus — including proper handwashing and forbidding bare hand contact with ready-to-eat foods.

Laboratory testing

We do not have laboratory results for the people who got sick. Often in norovirus outbreaks, no laboratory testing is done. The exact food or drink item that caused the illness has not been identified, though this is not uncommon for norovirus outbreaks where multiple food items may be contaminated.

REF: [Norovirus associated with Anthony's HomePort in Des Moines - King County](#)