

Norovirus-like illness associated with DSquared Hospitality at T-Mobile Market Hall in Bellevue

AT-A-GLANCE

- **Cases:** 22
- **Hospitalizations:** 0
- **Deaths:** 0
- **Status:** Investigation is in progress
- **Location:** DSquared Hospitality at T-Mobile Market Hall, 3655 131st AVE SE Bellevue, WA 98006
- **Meal dates:** April 26 and 27, 2023
- **Current inspection rating:** EXCELLENT

☐ Highlights

Posted May 3, 2023

Summary

Public Health is investigating an outbreak of norovirus-like illness associated with vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and chills at Dsquared Hospitality at T-Mobile Market Hall in Bellevue.

We have not identified how norovirus was spread within the food service facility. This is not uncommon for norovirus outbreaks, because the virus can spread through contaminated food items, environmental surfaces, and from person to person.

Illnesses

As of May 1, 2023, 22 people reported becoming ill after eating food from Dsquared Hospitality at T-Mobile Market Hall on April 26 and April 27. All the people developed one or more symptoms consistent with norovirus-like illness, including vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and chills. We identified one ill employee who reported symptoms consistent with norovirus on April 25, 2023. It is not clear if this person was contagious at work.

Public Health actions

Environmental Health Investigators visited the food service facility on May 2, 2023. Investigators did not find any risk factors within the food service facility that are known to contribute to the spread of norovirus. The food service facility closed on May 2 to complete a thorough cleaning and disinfection. Environmental Health Investigators will revisit the facility on May 3, 2023, to confirm that proper cleaning and disinfection was completed. The facility will reopen after meeting with Environmental Health Investigators.

Investigators reviewed with food service facility management the requirement that ill staff are not allowed to work until they are symptom-free for at least 48 hours and provided education about preventing the spread of norovirus — including proper handwashing, preventing bare hand contact with ready-to-eat foods, and best practices for facility-wide cleaning and disinfection.

Laboratory testing

We do not have laboratory testing for the people who got sick. Often in norovirus outbreaks, no laboratory testing is done because people tend to get better within a day or two. Symptoms among those who got sick are suggestive of norovirus-like illness.

 [Report possible foodborne illness](#)

☐ About norovirus

- Norovirus is a highly contagious virus that frequently spreads person-to-person and is often associated with food. Norovirus illness often has a sudden onset of nausea and vomiting and/or watery diarrhea with cramps. A low-grade fever, chills, and body aches sometimes occur.
- Norovirus rarely causes severe complications. Dehydration is the most common complication, particularly among young children and the elderly. No vaccine is available for norovirus.

Prevention

General advice for reducing risk of contracting norovirus:

- Wash hands, cutting boards, and counters used for food preparation immediately after use to avoid cross-contamination of other foods.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap after using the bathroom or changing diapers, and before preparing any food or eating.
- Wait at least 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting and/or diarrhea before preparing any food for others.

More information about norovirus:

- [Norovirus facts](#), Public Health – Seattle & King County
- [Norovirus facts](#), Foodsafety.gov

 **Link/share this page at kingcounty.gov/outbreak/dsquared**