# **Infection Control** *Pathogen Primer*

# **Norovirus**

### What is Norovirus

Norovirus is a group of viruses that cause the 'stomach flu' or more appropriately, 'gastroenteritis' in humans.

## How you get sick from Norovirus

It is highly contagious. Transmission of the virus can be from person to person contact, from touching contaminated surfaces, or consuming contaminated food or water. Also, because it is present in feces, poor handwashing can result in contracting illnesses related to Norovirus.

#### **Facts about Norovirus**

- •Noroviruses are the most common cause of acute gastroenteritis.
- •Noroviruses are the most common cause of foodborne illness (food poisoning), but other pathogens such as E-Coli also cause food poisoning.
- •21 million cases reported in the U.S. each year. Other Information: Norovirus related illnesses are sometimes referred to as "Cruise Ship Disease" because of well publicized outbreaks on large cruise ships. But Norovirus can be quickly spread in areas where a lot of people are confined in a space such as schools and hospitals.

#### **Prevention**

Good hand hygiene, proper preparation and cooking of foods, and regular cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces.

More info on the CDC Norovirus Webpage

#### **Multi-Clean Disinfectant Products**

- Millennium Q 64
- E-Fecticide 128
- Century Q 256
- MC Disinfecting Wipes
- Microcide TB
- Peroxi-Cide

















