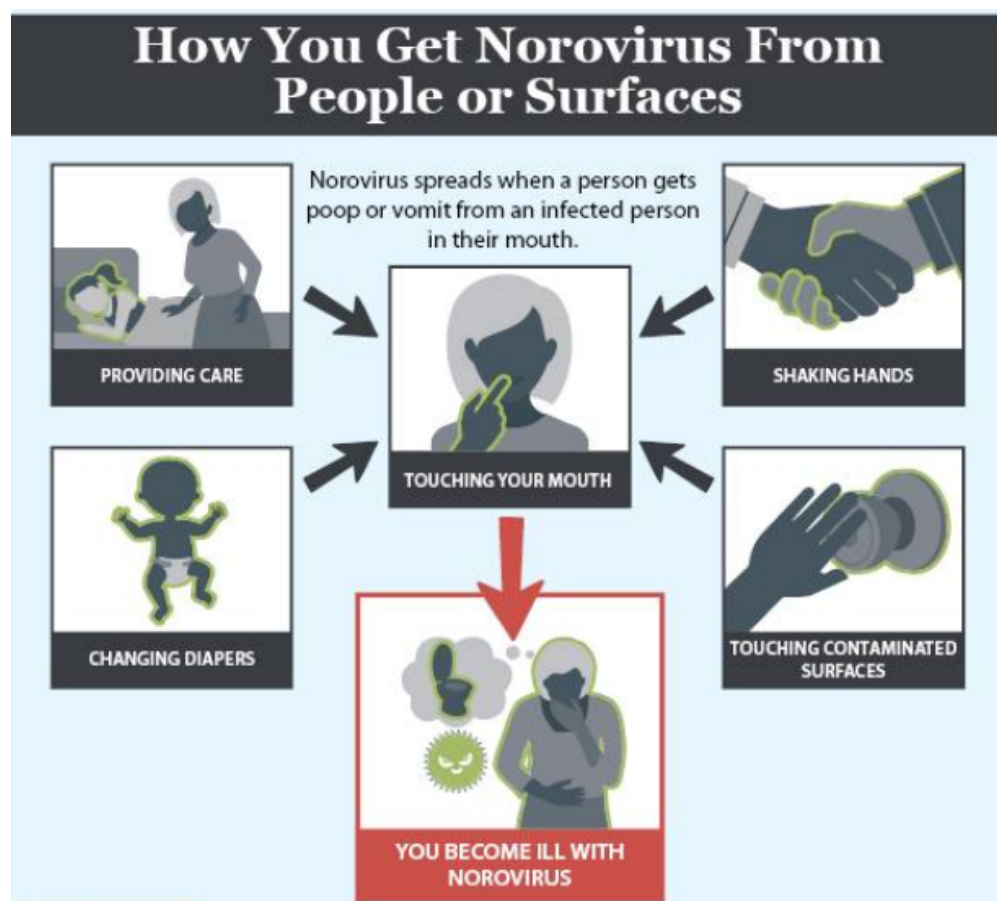


Norovirus Infection

Why in News?

Recently, the norovirus cases are raising in the United States (US).

- **Norovirus** - It is a highly contagious virus, an influenza virus.
- **Winter vomiting bug** - Since norovirus is most common during winter like bugs, it is called as *Winter Vomiting Bug*.
- **Risk factors** - All age groups get infected but more vulnerable are children younger than 5 years old, older adults, and people with weakened immune systems.
- **Transmitted through** - *Contaminated food* due to consumption of raw, oysters and other filter-feeding shellfish, water and surfaces
 - **Primary transmission route** - *Oral-faecal*.



- **Incubation period** - It develops in *1 or 2 days* after exposure.
- **Symptoms** - Diarrhea, vomiting, nausea and stomach pain and dehydration (loss of body fluids).
 - **Other symptoms** - Fever, headache and body aches.

Norovirus is also called as ***Stomach Flu*** or *Stomach Bug* owing to its common symptoms associated with stomach.

Norovirus were previously known as ***Norwalk virus***, was 1st identified in stool specimens collected during an outbreak of gastroenteritis in Norwalk city, United States.

- **No treatment** - There are no vaccines available for the disease And even antibiotic drugs do not help to treat norovirus infections.
- **Precautions** - Washing hands repeatedly with soap after using the lavatory or changing diapers.

References

1. [The Indian Express| Spread of Norovirus in US](#)
2. [CDC| Norovirus](#)

