Seegene

Nudge scholar

The insights to drive smart ideas
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Stomach Flu on the rise, Stay Vigilant

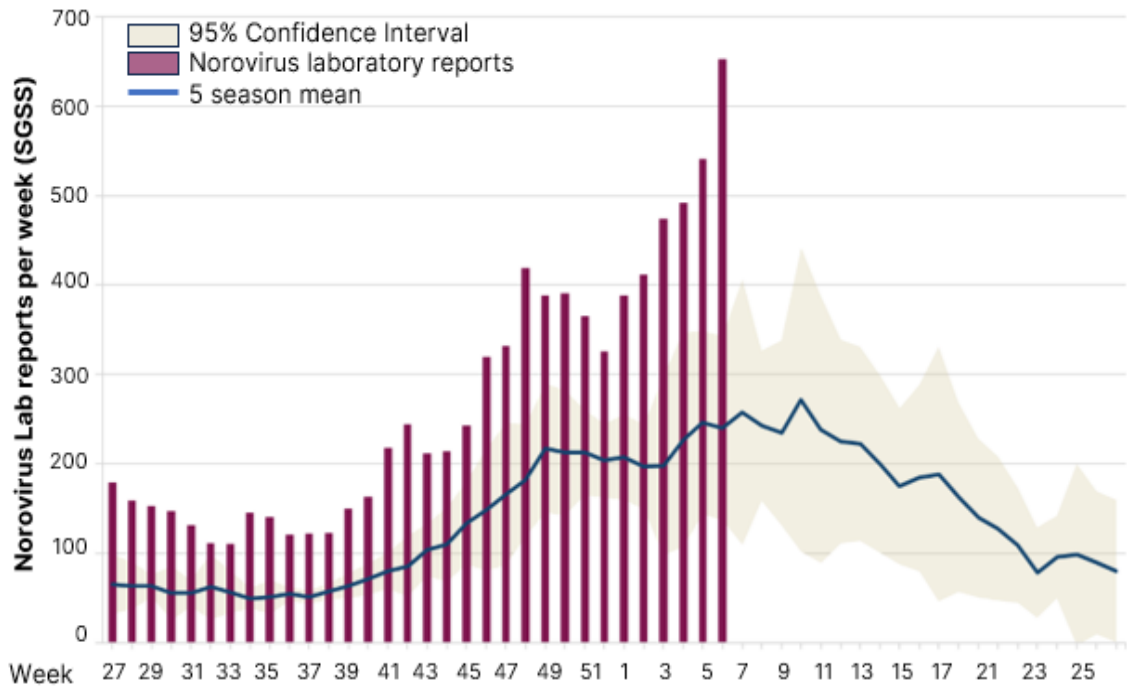

Fig. Norovirus laboratory reports in England (2024/25 season)

Norovirus Outbreaks

The UK is monitoring norovirus laboratory reports, and the number of cases in weeks 5–6 of 2025 is more than double (145.2%) the five-season average for the same period[1]. Norovirus levels in hospitals in England were 27.1% higher than the same period last year, and previous month recorded the highest level for any January since 2020[2].

The USA reported 1,676 norovirus outbreaks from August 1st, 2024, to February 5th, 2025, more than double the 729 outbreaks reported during the same period last season[3].

Canada has been observing norovirus cases appearing at a five-year high[4]. Also, in the **Republic of Korea,** the number of norovirus infection cases has increased 3.6 times over the past 5 weeks, with infants and young children under six accounting for 58.8% of the total cases[5].

The 2024–2025 norovirus season has seen a surge in outbreaks

About Norovirus

Norovirus is a highly prevalent viral pathogen and the leading cause of acute gastroenteritis worldwide, characterized by the sudden onset of diarrhea and vomiting[6].

Transmission occurs through 1) direct contact with infected individuals, 2) consumption of contaminated food or water, or 3) touching contaminated surfaces followed by hand-to-mouth contact[7].

Surge of GII.17

One possible reason for the recent unusual peak in norovirus is the emergence of a strain called GII.17, surpassing the previously dominant genotype GII.4[8,9,10].

During the 2023/24 season (July 2023–June 2024), **the USA, the UK, Austria, France, Germany, the Netherlands**, and **Ireland** reported a surge in GII.17[11].

This trend has continued in **the USA** and **the UK**, with GII.17 accounting for 79% and 54.3% of norovirus outbreaks during the 2024/2025 season, respectively[1,12].

Experts suggest that lower population immunity may contribute to its rapid spread[6,7].

Outbreak Control with Allplex™ GI-Virus Assay

To rapidly detect and contain outbreaks, **Allplex™ GI-Virus Assay** has been utilized to identify norovirus infections with diverse genotypes, thereby preventing further spread.

In **Thailand**, an unusual diarrheal outbreak was caused by norovirus GII.3[P25], with an infection rate of 60% among the outbreak cases and 10% among sporadic cases[13].

In **Spain,** two successive norovirus GII.6 outbreaks occurred in the same holiday camp house, with attack rates of 89.7% and 69.6%, likely due to contaminated food and inadequate hygiene practices[14].

As norovirus outbreaks continue to increase, early and accurate detection is essential to prevent their spread.

Seegene's **Allplex™ GI-Virus Assay** can detect multiple genotypes, including the newly predominant norovirus GII.17.

Further, **Allplex™ Gastrointestinal Panel Assays** provide extensive and comprehensive testing solutions for the exact causative pathogens of gastrointestinal infections.

Seegene Solution

Allplex™ GI-Virus Assay	Allplex™ GI-Bacteria(I) Assay	Allplex™ GI-Bacteria(II) Assay	Allplex™ GI-Parasite Assay	Allplex™ GI-Helminth(I) Assay
• Adenovirus • Astrovirus • Norovirus GI • Norovirus GII • Rotavirus • Sapovirus	• *Aeromonas* spp. • *Campylobacter* spp. • *Clostridium difficile* toxin B • *Salmonella* spp. • *Shigella* spp./Enteroinvasive *E. coli* (EIEC) • *Vibrio* spp. • *Yersinia enterocolitica*	• *Escherichia coli* O157 • Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC)(*stx1/2*) • Enteroaggregative *E. coli* (EAEC)(*aggR*) • Enteropathogenic *E. coli* (EPEC)(*eaeA*) • Enterotoxigenic *E. coli* (ETEC)(*lt/st*) • Hypervirulent *Clostridium difficile*	• *Blastocystis hominis* • *Cryptosporidium* spp. • *Cyclospora cayetanensis* • *Dientamoeba fragilis* • *Entamoeba histolytica* • *Giardia lamblia*	• *Ancylostoma* spp. • *Ascaris* spp. • *Enterobius vermicularis* • *Enterocytozoon* spp./*Encephalitozoon* spp. • *Hymenolepis* spp. • *Necator americanus* • *Strongyloides* spp. • *Taenia* spp. • *Trichuris trichiura*

Ref. [1] GOV.UK (20 Feb 2025); [2] Hospital Norovirus Outbreak Reporting System (19 Jan 2025); [3] CDC (5 Feb 2025); [4] PHAC (30 Dec 2024); [5] KDCA (6 Jan 2025); [6] WHO; [7] CDC; [8] Contemporarypediatrics; [9] Yalemedicine; [10] Kendra et al., 2022; [11] Chhabra et al., 2024; [12] CDC CaliciNet Data (retrieved 10 Feb 2025); [13] Udompat et al., 2024; [14] Alsedà et al., 2023