



Norovirus in Long Term Care Facilities



Presentation Overview

- Case file: *Joe's story*
- Norovirus review
- Case file review

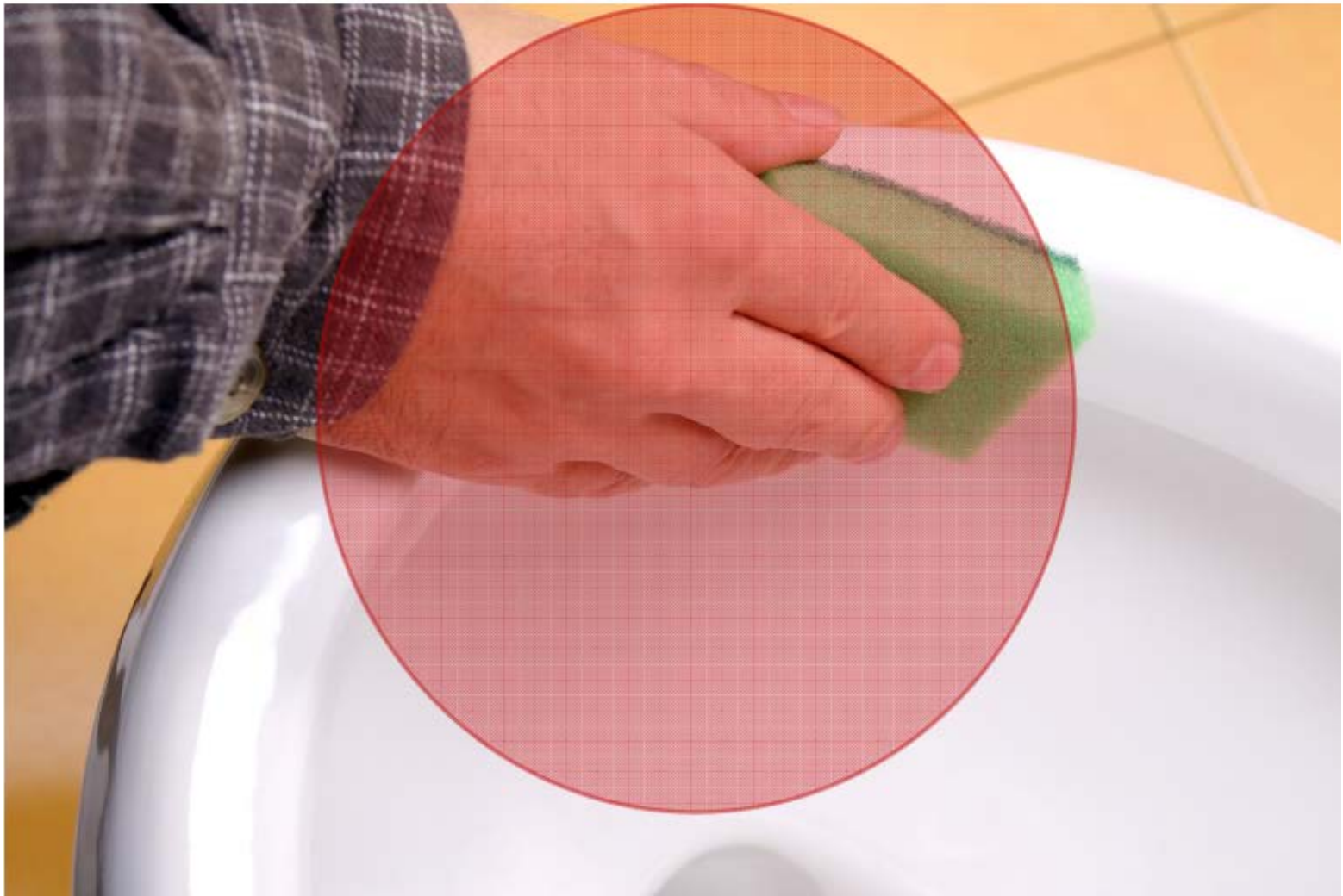




Case file:
Joe's story



Joe and his son Alex.



Joe cleaned up a lot of Alex's accidents.



Joe wasn't feeling too well.



Joe had really bad diarrhea and vomiting.



Joe still went to work. He's a CNA at a SNF.



Rita helped Joe when he vomited at work.



Then, Rita went to help Sue.



12 hours later, Sue wasn't feeling so well.



Martha cleaned up many accidents.



Betty took out the dirty linen.



Linda spoke to her mom's doctor.



Dr. Smith and Rita see another patient.

Who got sick or could spread Norovirus?

1. Joe
2. Rita
3. Sue
4. Sue's 2 roommates
5. Linda
6. Dr. Smith
7. Martha
8. Betty





Norovirus Review



How does Norovirus affect healthcare facilities?

- 1 in 5 outbreaks in healthcare facilities are caused by Norovirus.
- Norovirus is the most common cause of outbreaks in SNFs.
- Half of all food borne illness is caused by Norovirus.



What is Norovirus?



- It's often incorrectly called the **stomach flu**
- Norovirus causes gastroenteritis
- *Gastroenteritis* means inflammation of the stomach and intestines

What are the symptoms of Norovirus?



Symptoms include:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Stomach Cramping

How does Norovirus spread?

- Norovirus is found in feces and vomit
- It spreads by:
 - Eating contaminated food or water
 - Touching contaminated surfaces or objects
- Norovirus can stay in the air for up to 2 hours after forceful vomiting



Who is affected by Norovirus?

- Anyone can get sick with Norovirus
 - Patients/Residents
 - Families/Visitors
 - Staff
- Dehydration is a severe side-effect
- Norovirus is serious especially for seniors



How can Norovirus be prevented?

- Stay home if sick
- Wash hands correctly and frequently
 - Before and after seeing patients
 - After bathroom visits
 - After cleaning up feces or vomit
 - Before handling food



Continued....

- Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when cleaning up feces and vomit
 - Gloves
 - Surgical mask
 - Gown/Apron
- Clean surfaces more often, especially high traffic areas
 - Use an EPA approved product



What should be done in case of a suspected outbreak?

- If you see a sudden increase in vomiting and diarrhea in your facility:
 - Tell your outbreak coordinator
 - Follow your facilities policies and procedures



Continued...

- Your outbreak coordinator will:
 - Assign staff to sick or healthy patients
 - Call the Health Department





Case file *review*



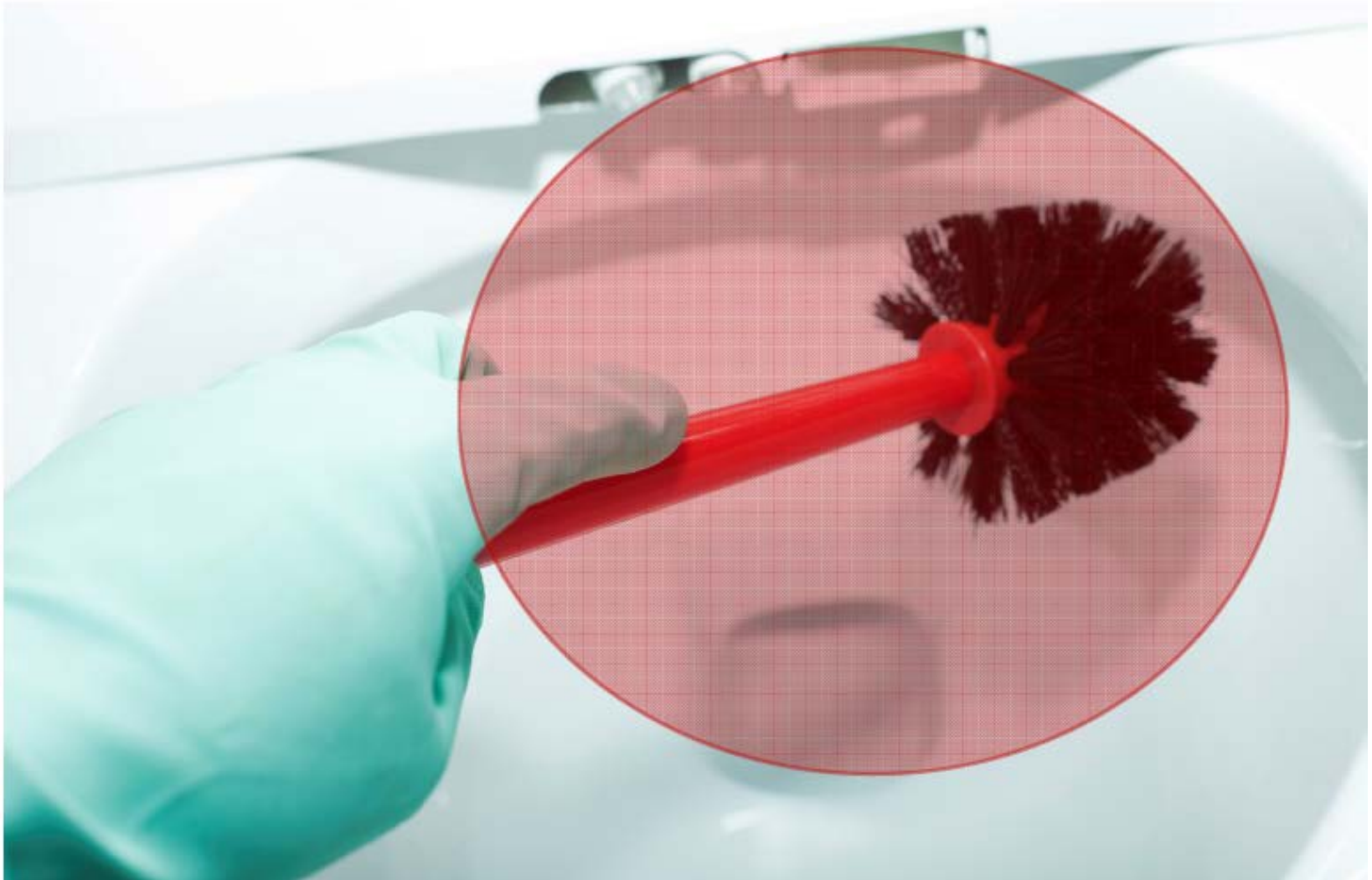
Stay home when sick.



Wash your hands.



**Wear Personal Protective Equipment
(PPE)**



Clean facilities more often.



Report possible outbreaks to your outbreak coordinator.



Questions?





Where can I go for more information?

- [Norovirus](#): Chester County Health Department
- [Long Term Care Facility Print Materials](#):
Chester County Health Department

Resources

- [Norovirus Tool-kit](#): L A County Department of Public Health
- [Norovirus Infection](#): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- [Guideline for the Prevention and Control of Norovirus Gastroenteritis Outbreaks in Healthcare Settings 2011](#): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention