

What is vibriosis?

Vibriosis (vi-bree-O-sis) is caused by a group of bacteria called *Vibrio* species. These bacteria live naturally in water, particularly along coastal areas, and similar warmer water which means that there are more bacteria from May to October. Marine life can also become contaminated with *Vibrio* species.

What are the symptoms?



Fever

Nausea

Headache



Vomiting

Diarrhea

Abdominal
Cramps

How long do symptoms last?

- Symptoms usually begin around 24 hours to three days
- Severe illness is rare, and typically happens in people with weakened immune systems

Cholera

Cholera is a severe illness caused by certain *Vibrio* bacteria (*Vibrio cholerae* O1 and O139). It is rarely seen in the United States, but more common in countries with unsafe drinking water and poor sewage treatment. Travelers to areas with high rates of cholera may be eligible for vaccination to lower the risk of severe illness. While traveling, do not drink or brush your teeth with tap water, avoid swallowing water while showering, and only use bottled, boiled, or treated water for drinking and food preparation.

How is do I know if I have vibriosis?

Vibriosis infections are normally diagnosed through laboratory testing of a feces sample.

Vibriosis infections should be treated with hydration. Antibiotics may be given depending on

How can it be prevented?

- 1 Follow food safety guidelines, consider consuming fully cooked seafood and be careful when consuming raw or undercooked seafood.
- 2 Avoid swallowing water when swimming or playing in bodies of water. Avoid entering bodies of water if you have open cuts.
- 3 Do not handle, prepare, or cook food for others while you have symptoms.
- 4 When sick limit direct contact with others as much as possible.

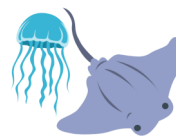
How does it spread?



Eating raw or undercooked shellfish, particularly oysters.



Contact with contaminated or brackish water when swimming, wading, or open wounds are exposed.



Certain marine animals can also bite or sting and cause infection.

For more information, visit the
Indiana Department of Health
[vibriosis webpage](#).

