

Flowchart: Enteric Outbreak

Two residents in a specific area with the following symptoms within 48 hours:

- ☐ Two or more episodes of vomiting within a 24 hour period
- or**
- ☐ Two or more episodes of diarrhea or watery stools within a 24 hour period
- or**
- ☐ One or more episode of vomiting AND one episode of diarrhea or watery stool within a 24 hour period

A positive stool culture accompanied by symptoms may also indicate an outbreak

- ☐ Contact the Thunder Bay District Health Unit at **807-625-8318**
- ☐ After hours dial **807-625-1280** and ask for ID on call

Implement contact precautions (gown/gloves) for ill residents:

- ☐ Isolate ill residents
- ☐ Gown and glove upon entry to room and for direct resident care
- ☐ Mask for vomiting residents
- ☐ Perform meticulous hand hygiene
- ☐ Dedicate equipment where possible
- ☐ Enhance cleaning and disinfecting
- ☐ Start line listing

- ☐ Obtain outbreak number from the Thunder Bay District Health Unit
- ☐ Fax line list DAILY to the Health Unit: **807-625-4822**
- ☐ Obtain stool samples from ill residents using Enteric Outbreak Kit. Once the causative organism is identified, further samples do not need to be obtained from ill residents. If causative organism is *C. Difficile*, collect specimens on all symptomatic residents with the same symptoms in the same affected unit / area.
- ☐ Send stool samples to Public Health Lab
Include the outbreak number on the laboratory requisition
- ☐ After hours, specimens can be stored in the refrigerator (not freezer) and delivered to the lab the next morning

Once a confirmed outbreak has been declared, schedule initial outbreak meeting with Health Unit, and follow Outbreak Control Measures Checklist