

Investigation of A Norovirus Outbreak in A College, Kaohsiung City, 2016

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Abstract

On December 11 and 12, 2016, the Department of Health of Kaohsiung City was notified of a foodborne outbreak in a college, involving 19 students. Initial investigation showed that among 123 teachers and students participating in a field trip, 54 suffered from symptoms including diarrhea, abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting (attack rate: 43.9%). After investigation, Taiwan Centers for Disease Control confirmed this foodborne outbreak that caused by norovirus GII.2. However, none of the 24 food items was significantly associated with illness. About 60% cases showed symptoms lasting longer than 72 hours. We suggested genotyping analysis to evaluate new norovirus variant if the illness duration was longer than usual in a norovirus outbreak.

Keywords: Diarrhea, Outbreak, Norovirus GII.2

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