

Acute Foodborne Gastroenteritis Reference Table

Cause	Average incubation	Range incubation	Fever	Vomiting	Diarrhea
Heavy metals	5 -15 min	1 min – 8 hrs	--	+++	++
Staph enterotoxin	2- 4 hrs	30 min - 8 hrs	--	++++	+++
<i>Bacillus cereus</i> emetic syndrome	2 - 4 hrs	30 min - 6 hrs	--	+++	+
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	11 hrs	6 - 24 hrs	--	--	++++
<i>E. coli</i> invasive	11 hrs	8 - 24 hrs	++	--	+++
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	12 – 24 hrs	4 - 30 hrs	+	+	+++
<i>Bacillus cereus</i> diarrhea syndrome	12 hrs	6 - 24 hrs	--	+	+++
<i>Salmonella</i>	24 hrs	6 - 72 hrs	++	+	+++
<i>E. coli</i> enterotoxigenic	26 hrs	8 - 48 hrs	--	--	+++
<i>Shigella</i>	36 hrs	1 - 7 days	+++	+	+++
Norovirus	36 hrs	10 - 50 hrs	+	+++	+++
<i>Vibrio cholerae</i>	2 – 3 days	few hrs - 5 days	--	--	++++
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	2- 5 days	1 - 10 days	++	--	+++
<i>E. coli</i> O157:H7	3 – 4 days	2 – 10 days	++	--	+++
<i>Yersina enterocolitica</i>	4 days	1 - 14 days	++	+	++
<i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i>	7 days	2 - 14 days	+	+	+++

**Vibrio vulnificus* has an incubation period of 12 hours to 3 days. However, infection with this organism does not present with vomiting or diarrhea, but with fever, septicemia and severe wound infection.

** *Listeria monocytogenes* has an average incubation period of 3 weeks (ranging from 1-70 days).

References:

David L Heymann, Control of Communicable Disease Manual (2008). American Public Health Association. Red Book, Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases (2006). American Academy of Pediatrics.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Guide to Confirming a Diagnosis in Foodborne Disease (updated 2006)