



# Vibriosis

## Fact Sheet



Vibriosis is an infection caused by one of many types of *Vibrio* bacteria. These bacteria are often found in salty, coastal waters. *Vibrio* is more common between May and October when the water is warmer.

People can become sick by eating raw or undercooked shellfish. Skin can get infected if an open cut or wound has contact with salt water or brackish water. Brackish water is a mixture of fresh and salt water.

## Signs and Symptoms



Watery Stool



Stomach Pain



Nausea and Vomiting



Fever and Chills

Symptoms usually begin within 24 hours of eating. Illness usually goes away on its own after about three days. Skin infections caused by *Vibrio* can look red, feel warm, and may have pus. People with weak immune systems or liver disease are at higher risk of getting an infection in their blood.



Talk with a healthcare provider if you have symptoms of vibriosis after eating shellfish or swimming in the ocean. They may take a sample of your blood, stool, or wound to test for *Vibrio*. Treatment is not usually needed. Patients should drink lots of liquids to replace lost fluids.

## Prevention



Cook seafood, especially oysters thoroughly



Do not swim with open wounds



Wash your hands and wounds after contact with raw seafood or sea water

## For More Information, Visit



1. [www.maine.gov/dhhs/vibrio](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/vibrio)
2. [www.cdc.gov/vibrio](http://www.cdc.gov/vibrio)

You can also call Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821.