

 fraserhealth Better health. Best in health care.	Infection Prevention and Control	Staying Safe During VRI and GI Outbreaks
Staff Breakroom Strategies: Best Practice Recommendations		Updated: January 30, 2023

Physical controls

- Ensure furniture is intact, non-porous and surfaces are easily wipe-able
- Mount wipe-able boards (e.g., dry erase, magnetic) in break rooms
- Laminate signage and other posted materials or place behind Plexiglas; tape on the walls is not recommended as tape cannot be cleaned and disinfected
- Ensure cleaning and disinfection wipes, Alcohol based hand rub (ABHR) and medical masks are readily available in the room

Staff best practices

- Perform hand hygiene before entering the room
- Remove and discard a worn mask and perform hand hygiene prior to eating when mask mandate is in effect
- Wear a new mask when not eating and drinking
- Clean your chair/table/surface areas with disinfecting wipes prior to leaving the seating area
- Perform hand hygiene when leaving the break room

Food

- Do not have any open/shared food and shared condiments (e.g., salt, pepper, ketchup, milk). Even those that are individually packaged – e.g., chocolates, candies in a single bowl or box which encourages staff to reach into a single communal container
- If measures are put in place to mitigate contamination, individually packaged food can be distributed:
 - Designate one person to distribute food (using tongs whenever possible), must perform hand hygiene prior to distribution

Decluttering

- Declutter room (e.g., no linen, cardboard boxes, lost and found, old mugs, vases, any clothing and footwear) and clear horizontal surfaces
- Do not keep magazines, puzzles, cards or other shared entertainment material
- Decorations must not impede cleaning and disinfection

Cleaning and disinfection

- Ensure there is a **daily** cleaning schedule for the staff room
- Ensure there is a **monthly** cleaning schedule for the fridge
- Ensure there is a **daily** cleaning schedule for all electronics and small appliances (e.g., television, remote controls, computers, toaster, microwave, etc.)
- Ensure remote controls, keyboards, etc., have a plastic covering to support ease of daily cleaning

For questions/concerns not addressed, please consult your Infection Prevention and Control Practitioner