

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever



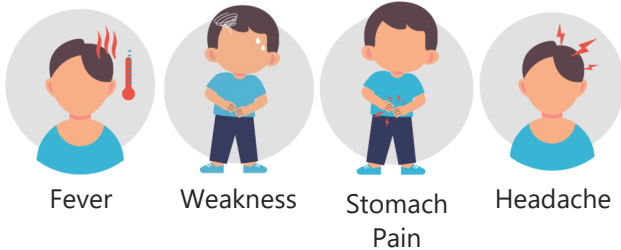
Infectious Disease
Epidemiology &
Prevention Division

March 2026

What is typhoid and paratyphoid fever?

Typhoid and paratyphoid fever are caused by *Salmonella* serotypes *Typhi* and *Paratyphi*. They are typically spread through untreated water. Individuals who drink untreated water and eat foods that may be contaminated are at risk of infection. Typhoid and paratyphoid fever are rare in Indiana (and within the U.S. overall); however people traveling to countries where these diseases are common are at an increased risk.

What are the symptoms?



How long do symptoms last?

- Symptoms of **typhoid fever** begin around six to 30 days following exposure
- Symptoms of **paratyphoid fever** begin within one to 10 days of exposure
- Infection can be accompanied by a rash in some people while others can have no symptoms

How is it diagnosed?

Infections of typhoid or paratyphoid fever are normally diagnosed through laboratory testing of a feces sample. Contact a healthcare provider to confirm infection.

How is it treated?

Typhoid and paratyphoid infections should be treated with supportive therapy, such as hydration. Antibiotics may be administered by a healthcare provider based on the severity of infection.

How can it be prevented?

- 1 Follow food safety guidelines. Be careful when consuming raw or undercooked seafood.
- 2 Do not prepare food if you are sick, have diarrhea and/or are vomiting. Limit direct contact with others as much as possible.
- 3 Do not enter bodies of water when you have open wounds/cuts (or ensure they are fully covered).
- 4 Avoid swallowing water when swimming or playing in lakes, ponds, streams, swimming pools, or other bodies of water.
- 5 Vaccination is available to individuals traveling to countries where Typhoid fever is more common.

How does it spread?

Most people become sick when they have contact with untreated water or sewage. Other ways spread can occur include:



Have direct contact with someone who has an active infection.



Consuming food or water from contaminated water sources.



Traveling to countries where Typhoid and Paratyphoid are more common.

For more information, visit the Indiana Department of Health [typhoid and paratyphoid fever webpage](#).



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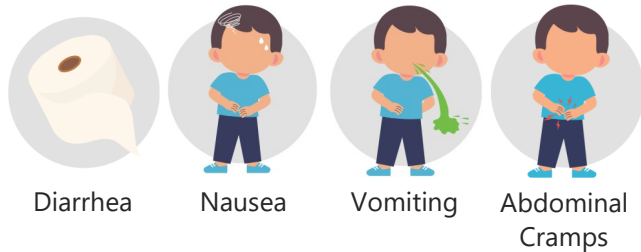
Infectious Disease
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What is typhoid and paratyphoid fever?

January 2026

Typhoid fever and paratyphoid fever are caused by *Salmonella* serotype *Typhi* and *Salmonella* serotype *Paratyphi*. These serotypes are specific types of the *Salmonella* bacterium. Typically, these diseases are spread through untreated water. They are

What are the symptoms?



ingested by
people who
drink un-

How long do symptoms last?

- Symptoms usually begin 24 to 48 hours after ingestion of the virus
- They can appear as early as 12 hours after exposure
- Usually last for one or two days, however people can feel very ill and vomit during this period

How is norovirus diagnosed?

Norovirus can be diagnosed by testing the stool of an infected person, ideally within 48 to 72 hours after symptoms start. Talk to your health care provider about testing or contact your local health department if you believe your illness is associated with an outbreak.

How is norovirus treated?

There is no specific medicine to treat people with norovirus infection. For treatment it is important to drink plenty of fluids so you don't become dehydrated and wash your hands often and do not prepare foods for others.

How does it spread?

Accidentally getting tiny traces of feces (poop) or vomit from an infected person in your mouth. This can happen if you:

Have direct contact with a sick person.

Consume contaminated food or water.

Touch contaminated surfaces then put your unwashed hands in your mouth.

How can it be prevented?

- 1 Wash your hands with warm, soapy water, especially after using the bathroom, changing diapers, and preparing food.
- 2 Do not handle, prepare, or cook food for others while you have symptoms or at least three days after recovery.
- 3 Clean and disinfect surfaces immediately after vomiting or diarrheal accidents.
- 4 Carefully wash fruits and vegetables before preparing and eating them.

For more information, visit the
Indiana Department of Health
[norovirus webpage](#).