

DISEASE 101: *Rotavirus*

What is Rotavirus?



Rotavirus is a virus that causes severe diarrheal disease and other gastrointestinal issues.

Did You Know?

There are four oral rotavirus vaccines currently prequalified by the World Health Organization.

**THE MOST EFFECTIVE
PROTECTION AGAINST
ROTAVIRUS INFECTION IS
VACCINATION**

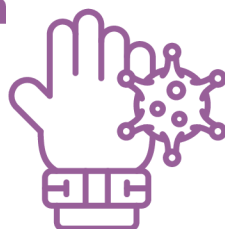


Since 2006, more than 120 countries around the world have introduced rotavirus vaccines into their routine immunization schedules.

While there is no specific medication for rotavirus, preventing or treating dehydration is the most important treatment for rotavirus infections.

Disease Transmission

Rotavirus is transmitted directly from person to person through the oral-fecal route, or indirectly via contaminated objects.



Symptoms

Rotavirus causes **watery diarrhea, vomiting, and severe dehydration**. The onset of the symptoms can be sudden, about two days after a person is exposed to the virus.



**WATERY
DIARRHEA**



VOMITING



**SEVERE
DEHYDRATION**

On the Map

Rotavirus can occur worldwide; however, the highest burden of cases occurs in low- and middle-income countries, particularly in:



**South and
Southeast Asia**



**Sub-Saharan
Africa**

Rotavirus disease burden remains highest in countries without routine rotavirus vaccine programs and where access to health care is limited.