



## Summary

Epidemiology is the study of distribution and determinants of health-related states in specified populations, and the application of this study to control health problems. Foodborne disease is caused by consuming contaminated foods or beverages. The food can be contaminated by many different disease-causing microbes, or pathogens, and toxins produced by these organisms, so there are many different foodborne infections. Contamination of food by infectious organisms or their toxins can occur during processing or production of food. Food contamination can also occur at home due to improper handling or cooking. Food poisoning symptoms can start within hours of eating contaminated food. Symptoms vary with the source of contamination. Most types of food poisoning cause one or more of the following signs and symptoms:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Watery diarrhea
- Abdominal pain and cramps
- Fever

### Causative agents

1. Bacterial
2. Viral
3. Parasitic
4. Toxic products of these organisms.