

Summary

- Viruses and bacteria are responsible for the vast majority of food borne diseases.
- The time course of onset from ingestion to illness can be useful in establishing the cause.
- Certain food groups are associated with particular pathogens.
- Supportive care is sufficient for most cases but antibiotics may be lifesaving in others.
- Proper food handling, preparation, and hand hygiene can prevent most food borne illnesses.