OREGON NOROVIRUS WATCH, APRIL 2016. This issue of Oregon Norovirus Watch includes norovirus outbreak data from the 2015–2016 norovirus season. In the month of April 2016, 16 norovirus or norovirus-like outbreaks were reported, of which 11 (69%) were in nursing homes, 3 (19%) were in schools and 2 (13%) in other settings. Since March 2015, 103 (58%) of 178 lab-confirmed and norovirus-like outbreaks occurred in nursing homes or assisted-living facilities (Fig. 1). Over the last year, GII.4 Sydney was identified in 34 (47%) of 73 lab-confirmed outbreaks. Interestingly, we have seen an increase in GII.2 genotypes since the beginning of 2016.

Figure 1. Laboratory-confirmed norovirus & norovirus-like outbreaks by setting type and month Oregon, April 2015-April 2016 (n=178)

LTC: long term care ALC Assisted living facility **“Other” includes hotels, workplaces, private homes, caterers

Figure 2. Laboratory confirmed norovirus by genotypes and month in Oregon, April 2015-April 2016 (n=73)

*32 (41%) of 178 suspected norovirus outbreaks have been confirmed by positive lab results from ≥2 patients.

Please send any comments or data requests to Emilio DeBess emilio.e.debess@state.or.us or Alexia Zhang alexia.y.zhang@state.or.us

Oregon Norovirus Watch monthly reports are also found on our calicivirus web site: http://public.health.oregon.gov/DiseasesConditions/DiseasesAZ/Pages/disease.aspx?did=110.