Typhoid Fever

Typhoid Fever is a life-threatening illness caused by bacteria.

Most people get it from international travel, but contaminated food and water can also make you sick.

Symptoms
Symptoms begin 3 to 60 days after exposure (but usually within 2 weeks). See your health care provider if you have symptoms and tell them you may have been exposed to Typhoid Fever.

Early symptoms:
• Fever with chills that increase over several days.
• Headache, dry cough.
• General feeling of being unwell.
• Constipation, bloating and stomach pain, lack of appetite.

Later symptoms:
• Diarrhea that looks like pea soup.
• Confused thinking.
• Rash that looks like flat, rose-colored spots.
Transmission
The bacteria lives in infected people and leaves the body in the stool (poop). A few people who get Typhoid may still carry and spread the bacteria for a long time after recovery. You can get Typhoid Fever if you eat food or drink beverages that have been handled by a person with the bacteria, or that are prepared with contaminated food or water.

Treatment
A stool sample or blood test is the only way to confirm Typhoid Fever. Typhoid Fever should be treated as soon as possible. Without antibiotics, 20% of people may die.

Prevention
To protect your health and prevent illness, wash your hands after using the restroom, changing a diaper, and before eating or preparing food.

For more information, call 614-645-1474 – option #3.