

Long-Term Care Survey Alert

Clinical Research: RESEARCHERS IDENTIFY LEADING CAUSE OF GASTROENTERITIS

Scientists may have cracked the mystery surrounding the cause of the pervasive gastroenteritis that afflicts nursing home residents. Researchers at the **National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases** have identified a group of Norwalk-like viruses as the leading cause of diarrheal infections in Maryland nursing homes, according to a study appearing in a recent issue of *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*. Symptoms of the illness include vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, fever, chills and headache. NIAID researchers are now working on a test to diagnose the infection.