

Wave of illness subsides on Caribbean cruise

January 2 2013

The cruise line that operates the Queen Mary 2 says an apparent outbreak of gastrointestinal illness has subsided as the ship heads back to port.

Cunard Line spokeswoman Jackie Chase says just two passengers had suspected cases of norovirus on Tuesday. That's down from 201 cases reported by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control as the ship made its way through the Caribbean on a 12-night voyage with more than 2,600 passengers.

Norovirus is easily transmittable and typically results in vomiting and diarrhea. The CDC and Cunard say the crew of the Queen Mary 2 took steps to halt the spread of the virus such as deploying teams to do additional cleaning of public areas with disinfectant.

The ship returns to New York on Wednesday.

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