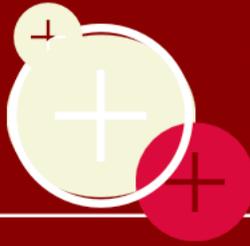


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FAST FACTS ABOUT THE RED TIDE

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1.



Red tide is caused by blooms of microscopic algae, most commonly *Karenia brevis*.

2.



These blooms can turn coastal waters a deep red or brown color, giving the phenomenon its name.

3.



Algae produce neurotoxins that affect marine life.

4.



Brevetoxin can act similarly to other Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisons such as Ciguatera.

5.



Toxins can become airborne, causing respiratory irritation in humans. Measurable difference in FEV1 in asthmatic patients.

6.



Eating contaminated shellfish can lead to Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning. This poisoning leads to GI symptoms. Up to 40% more ED visits for GI symptoms during the blooms.

7.



Brevetoxin activates the voltage-gated sodium channels leading to symptoms in humans

8.



Blooms are unpredictable and can last from weeks to over a year.

9.



Scientists use satellite imagery to track and predict bloom movements.

10.



Red tides are a global issue, occurring in coastal waters all around the world.