



JEFFERSON COUNTY General Health District

— Prevent. Promote. Protect. —

Food Service Employee Illness Reporting Requirements

Why do I need to tell my employer, or the Person in Charge (PIC), if I am sick?

- Employee illness reporting is a requirement of the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code, Section 3717-1-02.1 of the Ohio Administrative Code.
- Many diseases are capable of being transmitted through food handling, often resulting in illness outbreaks.
- The proper reporting of employee illness will reduce the risk of disease transmission through food.

Person in charge (PIC) to inform food employees and conditional employees to report to PIC if they are diagnosed with:

- Campylobacter
- Cryptosporidium
- Cyclospora
- Entamoeba histolytica
- Enterhemorrhagic or Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli
- Giardia
- Hepatitis A virus
- Norovirus
- Salmonella spp.
- Salmonella Typhi
- Shigella spp.
- Vibrio cholera
- Yersina

PIC to inform food employees and conditional employees that they shall report to PIC if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Jaundice
- Sore throat with fever
- Lesion / infected wound (depending on covering)

PIC to inform food employees to report to PIC if they had a previous illness of:

- Salmonella Typhi (within the past 3 months and no antibiotic therapy)

PIC to inform food employees to report to PIC if they meet any of the high risk conditions from:

- Salmonella Typhi
- Shigella spp.
- Enterhemorrhagic or Shiga Toxin-producing Escherichia coli
- Hepatitis A virus
- Norovirus
 - Suspected source or exposed to confirmed outbreak
 - Attends or works in a setting of a confirmed outbreak
 - Lives in same household with person diagnosed
 - Lives in same household with person who attends or works in a setting of a confirmed outbreak

Rule 3717-1-02.1 | Management and personnel: employee health.

(A) The license holder will ensure food employees and conditional employees report to the person in charge information about their health as it relates to diseases that are transmissible through food. A food employee or conditional employee is obligated to report the information in a manner that allows the person in charge to reduce the risk of foodborne disease transmission, including providing necessary additional information, such as the date of onset of symptoms and an illness, or of a diagnosis without symptoms, if the food employee or conditional employee:

(1) Has any of the following symptoms:

- (a) Vomiting;
- (b) Diarrhea;
- (c) Jaundice;
- (d) Sore throat with fever; or
- (e) A lesion containing pus such as a boil or infected wound that is open or draining and is:
 - (i) On the hands or wrists, unless an impermeable cover such as a finger cot or stall protects the lesion and a single-use glove is worn over the impermeable cover;
 - (ii) On exposed portions of the arms, unless the lesion is protected by an impermeable cover; or
 - (iii) On other parts of the body, unless the lesion is covered by a dry, durable, tight-fitting bandage.

(2) Has an illness diagnosed by a health care provider due to:

- (a) Campylobacter;
- (b) Cryptosporidium;
- (c) Cyclospora;
- (d) Entamoeba histolytica;
- (e) Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli;
- (f) Giardia;
- (g) Hepatitis A;
- (h) Norovirus;
- (i) Salmonella (nontyphoidal);
- (j) Salmonella Typhi;
- (k) Shigella spp.;
- (l) Vibrio cholerae; or
- (m) Yersinia.

- (3) Had a previous illness, diagnosed by a health care provider, within the past three months due to Salmonella Typhi, without having received antibiotic therapy, as determined by a health care provider;
- (4) Has been exposed to, or is the suspected source of, a confirmed disease outbreak, because the food employee or conditional employee consumed or prepared food implicated in the outbreak, or consumed food at an event prepared by a person who is infected or ill with:
- (a) Norovirus within the past forty-eight hours of the last exposure;
 - (b) Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli within the past ten days of the last exposure;
 - (c) Shigella spp. within the past four days of the last exposure;
 - (d) Salmonella Typhi within the past fourteen days of the last exposure;
 - (e) Hepatitis A virus within the past fifty days of the last exposure; or
- (5) Has been exposed by attending or working in a setting where there is a confirmed disease outbreak, or living in the same household as, and has knowledge about, an individual who works or attends a setting where there is a confirmed disease outbreak, or living in the same household as, and has knowledge about, an individual diagnosed with an illness caused by:
- (a) Norovirus within the past forty-eight hours of the last exposure;
 - (b) Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli, within the past ten days of the last exposure;
 - (c) Shigella spp. within the past four days of the last exposure;
 - (d) Salmonella Typhi within the past fourteen days of the last exposure; or
 - (e) Hepatitis A virus within the past fifty days of the last exposure.
- (B) The person in charge is to notify the licenser when a food employee is diagnosed with an illness due to a pathogen specified under paragraph (A)(2) of this rule.
- (C) The person in charge is to ensure that a conditional employee:
- (1) Who exhibits or reports a symptom as specified under paragraph (A)(1) of this rule, or who reports a diagnosed illness as specified under paragraph (A)(2) or (A)(3) of this rule, is precluded from becoming a food employee until the conditional employee meets the criteria as specified under paragraph (E) of this rule; and
 - (2) Who will work as a food employee in a food service operation or retail food establishment that serves a highly susceptible population and reports a history of exposure as specified under paragraphs (A)(4) and (A)(5) of this rule, is precluded from becoming a food employee until the conditional employee meets the criteria as specified under paragraph (E) of this rule.
- (D) Conditions of exclusion and restriction - exclusions and restrictions.
- (1) The person in charge will restrict the duties of a food employee of a food service operation or retail food establishment that has any of the symptoms listed in paragraph (A)(1) of this rule; and
 - (2) The person in charge will restrict the duties of a food employee or exclude a food employee diagnosed with illnesses listed in paragraph (A)(2) of this rule from a food service operation or retail food establishment in accordance with rule [3701-3-13](#) of the Administrative Code.
- (E) Removal of exclusions and restrictions.
- The person in charge may remove an exclusion or restriction specified under paragraph (D) of this rule if the food employee is released by a health care provider or by approval of the licenser. This provision does not prevent a person in charge from removing the restriction of a food employee if the restriction was due to symptoms listed in paragraph (A)(1) of this rule, the symptoms have ceased, and the illness was not from an infectious disease agent listed in paragraph (A)(2) of this rule.

<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-3717-1-02.1>

Last updated September 5, 2024