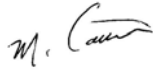




STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TO: Directors of Health
Chief Sanitarians
Certified Food Service Inspectors

FROM: Matthew L. Cartter, M.D., M.P.H. 
Epidemiology Program Coordinator

SUBJECT: Guidelines for Restricting Food Service Workers from Commercial Food Establishments

DATE: August 15, 2008

CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS

Persons infected with *Campylobacter* should not work as food service workers until clinical recovery from *Campylobacter* infection. The role of asymptomatic food service workers in disease transmission is unclear. Exclusion of asymptomatic individuals from food service is indicated for those with questionable hygienic habits.

CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS

Persons infected with *Cryptosporidium* should not work as food service workers until clinical recovery from *Cryptosporidium* infection. The role of asymptomatic food service workers in disease transmission is unclear. Exclusion of asymptomatic individuals from food service is indicated only for those with questionable hygienic habits.

DIARRHEA – Undiagnosed

Persons with undiagnosed diarrhea should not work as a food service worker until 72 hours after clinical recovery from diarrhea and until cleared by local health authorities.

***E. COLI* 0157 INFECTION AND OTHER SHIGA TOXIN-PRODUCING *E. COLI* (STEC) INFECTIONS**

Persons infected with *E. coli* 0157 or other STEC should not work as food service workers until clinical recovery from *E. coli* 0157 infection or other STEC infection and until two consecutive negative stool specimens collected not less than 24 hours apart have been examined in an approved laboratory or in the Department of Public Health (DPH) State Laboratory, and no *E. coli* 0157 or other STEC organisms are found. If antibiotics have been given, the initial culture should be taken at least 48 hours after the last dose.

GIARDIASIS

Persons infected with *Giardia lamblia* should not work as food service workers until clinical recovery from *G. lamblia* infection. The role of asymptomatic food service workers in disease transmission is unclear. Exclusion of asymptomatic individuals from food service is indicated only for those with questionable hygienic habits.

HEPATITIS A

Food service workers with laboratory-confirmed hepatitis A (+ IgM anti-HAV) should be excluded from work until 7 days after onset of jaundice or 10 days after onset of symptoms (if jaundice is absent) and providing all symptoms have subsided.

NOROVIRUS

Persons infected with norovirus should not work as a food service worker until at least 72 hours after clinical recovery from vomiting and until cleared by local health authorities.

SALMONELLOSIS

Persons infected with *Salmonella* should not work as food service workers until clinical recovery from *Salmonella* infection and until two consecutive negative stool specimens collected not less than 24 hours apart have been examined in an approved laboratory or in the DPH State Laboratory, and no *Salmonella* organisms are found. If antibiotics have been given, the initial culture should be taken at least 48 hours after the last dose.

SHIGELLOSIS

Persons infected with *Shigella* should not work as food service workers until clinical recovery from *Shigella* infection and until two consecutive negative stool specimens collected not less than 24 hours apart have been examined in an approved laboratory or in the DPH State Laboratory, and no *Shigella* organisms are found. If antibiotics have been given, the initial culture should be taken at least 48 hours after the last dose.

STAPHYLOCOCCAL INFECTIONS (CUTANEOUS)

No person should work as a food service worker until the local health director determines that the risk of transmitting staphylococcal bacteria through boils, abscesses, and other purulent lesions on hands, face, or nose have been eliminated.

TYPHOID FEVER

Persons infected with *Salmonella typhi* should not work as food service workers until clinical recovery from *S. typhi* infection **and** until three consecutive negative cultures are obtained from stool specimens taken not earlier than 1 month after onset of symptoms **and** at least 24 hour apart, **and** at least 48 hours after any antibiotic treatment.

VIBRIO INFECTION

Recommendations on exclusion from food handling should be made in conjunction with the Department of Public Health, Epidemiology and Emerging Infections Program.

VOMITING – Undiagnosed

Persons with undiagnosed vomiting should not work as a food service worker until at least 72 hours after clinical recovery from vomiting and until cleared by local health authorities.