

Enteric Transmission Risk Assessment and Exclusion Table

Public Health Follow-Up^(A) for CASES and CONTACTS Involved in Sensitive Situations or Occupations⁽¹⁾

Risk of Transmission ⁽²⁾	DISEASE	CASES			CONTACTS			
		Exclusion		Stool Specimens ⁽³⁾ Required	Exclusion		Stool Specimens ⁽³⁾ Required	
		Symptomatic	Asymptomatic	Symptomatic and Asymptomatic	Symptomatic	Asymptomatic	Symptomatic	Asymptomatic
LOW	Cyclosporiasis	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Trichinosis							
	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> (non O1, non O139)							
	<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i>							
MEDIUM	Amoebiasis	MAY BE EXCLUDED Until 48 hours after recovered and stools have returned to normal	No	No	MAY BE EXCLUDED Until 48 hours after recovered and stools have returned to normal	No	No	No
	Campylobacteriosis							
	Cholera (O1, O139)							
	Cryptosporidiosis							
	Giardiasis							
	Salmonellosis (non-typhoidal)							
	Yersiniosis							
HIGH	<i>E. coli</i> Verotoxigenic Infections	SHALL BE EXCLUDED	SHALL BE EXCLUDED	Yes x 2	SHALL BE EXCLUDED	Generally yes, MOH decision	Yes x 2	Yes x 1 (if excluded)
	Shigellosis							
	Typhoid/Paratyphoid Case/Carrier							

NOTE: This document provides a summary of the exclusions and recommendations for microbiological clearance for cases and contacts of cases with enteric illnesses who work in sensitive occupations or situations based on a review of current best practices. Refer to [disease-specific guidelines](#) for complete exclusion recommendations.

- ^(A) Public Health Follow-up: All cases of gastroenteritis should be regarded as potentially infectious. As a general rule, ALL symptomatic individuals (SSO and Non-SSO) should be advised to remain home from work/school/daycare until they are free from diarrhea and other gastrointestinal symptoms and for 48 hours following resumption of normal stool.
- The circumstances for each case, contact or carrier in SSO should be considered individually and assessed as to their current and ongoing risk of transmission to others.
 - There may be instances where the recommendations can be altered (e.g. request specimens to demonstrate clearance) as deemed necessary by the Medical Officer of Health on a case-by-case basis. However, clients with *E. coli* verotoxigenic infection, shigellosis, typhoid or paratyphoid MUST be excluded as specified (i.e., shall be excluded).
 - Persons not involved in sensitive situations or occupations (SSO) present a minimal risk of spreading gastrointestinal pathogens if they are healthy, have normal, well-formed stools and are able to maintain basic personal hygiene. Once the initial public health investigation is completed, follow-up with their personal health care provider is recommended.

(1) Sensitive Situations or Occupations (SSO)

Definition: Those that pose a higher risk of transmission to others or may contribute to efficient transmission of the infection and cause outbreaks

SSO	ACTIVITIES
Food handler	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Touches unwrapped food to be consumed and/or• Handles equipment or utensils that touch unwrapped food to be consumed <p><i>NOTE: Generally, food handlers who do not touch food, equipment or utensils in this way are not considered to pose a transmission risk; however, circumstances for each case should be assessed on an individual basis.</i></p>
Healthcare, childcare or other staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has contact through serving food to highly susceptible patients or persons in whom an intestinal infection would have particularly serious consequences• Provides direct patient care, or is involved in the care of, young children, elderly or dependent persons
Child attending a child care facility or similar facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is diapered or unable to implement good standards of personal hygiene
Any individual (child or adult)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is unable to implement good standards of personal hygiene (e.g., those with disabilities/challenges that may impact ability to perform good hand hygiene)

(2) Criteria Influencing Transmission Risk: infectious dose, severity of disease, presence of a carrier status, person-to-person transmission

TRANSMISSION RISK	CONSIDERATIONS
Low Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Person-to-person transmission is unlikely or has not been reported
Medium Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disease generally less severe• Food/water transmission can occur• Person-to-person transmission is generally low
High Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infective dose may be very low• Disease may be severe• Food/water or person-to-person transmission can occur

(3) Stool Specimen Collection

PERSON INVOLVED	GUIDELINE
Cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stools for microbiological clearance should be collected:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- when diarrhea has resolved for 48 hours AND- no sooner than 48 hours after completion of antibiotics (if prescribed) and/or any anti-diarrheal medications (if taken) AND- not less than 24 hours apart
Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specimens from contacts may be requested to determine the source of infection and/or in contacts who pose a risk of infection to others (e.g., those who are SSO)• Symptomatic contacts should be assessed by their health care provider