

Annex B: Clearance criteria for enteric diseases

Once a notified enteric disease has been confirmed (Table 1), it is ARPHS responsibility to give advice and manage high risk cases and their contacts. See the list of high risk cases or contacts below (Table 2).

Where the case is high risk, ARPHS will contact the medical provider(s) concerned and initiate an appropriate public health response dependent on the disease notified (Table 3).

Where the pathogen is unknown, the case is not high risk, or notification is not required we advise isolation at home until at least 48 hours after last symptoms.

Table A1

Notifiable enteric diseases:	
Campylobacter	Outbreaks of acute gastroenteritis
Cholera	Salmonella
Cryptosporidium	Shigella
Giardia	Typhoid and paratyphoid
Hepatitis A & E	VTEC/STEC (verocytotoxin/shiga toxin-producing E coli)
Listeria	Yersinia

Table A2

High risk cases or contacts
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food handlers whose work involves touching unwrapped foods to be eaten raw or without further cooking. 2. Staff, inpatients and residents of health care, residential care, social care or early childhood facilities whose activities increase risk of transferring infection via the faecal-oral route. 3. Children under 5 years of age attending early childhood services/groups. 4. Other adults or children at higher risk of spreading infection due to illness or disability.

Table A3

Exclusion criteria for cases and their contacts for each notifiable disease (for use by public health officials).

Pathogen	Cases		Close contacts (usually household)	
	Category	Restriction	Category	Restriction
Campylobacter	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	All contacts	No restriction
Cryptosporidium	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	All contacts	No restriction
	All	Advise against using public swimming pools for two weeks after symptoms have resolved		
Giardia	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	All contacts	No restriction
	All	Advise against using public swimming pools for two weeks after symptoms have resolved		
Hepatitis E Virus	1234	Confirmed and probable cases should not attend work or attend child care facilities during the infectious period (i.e. 14 days after onset of symptoms)	All contacts	No restriction
Salmonella	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	All contacts	No restriction
Shigella sonnei	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	All contacts	No restriction
Shigella boydi, dysenteriae and flexneri	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	1234	Exclude until one negative faecal specimen provided
	1234	Exclude until cleared: two consecutive negative faecal specimens taken at least 48 hours apart, and if receiving antibiotics at least 48 hours after course completed		

Table A3 continued

Pathogen	Cases		Close contacts (usually household)	
	Category	Restriction	Category	Restriction
Typhoid and paratyphoid [†]	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours **NB** Clearance criteria below (but without exclusion) should be completed for low risk cases	Contacts of locally acquired case*	
			1234	Exclude until two negative faecal specimens taken at least 48 hours apart
	1234	Exclude until cleared. This requires two consecutive negative faecal specimens taken at least 48 hours apart, either: at least 48 hours after appropriate antibiotics finished, or no earlier than a month after onset of symptoms	All household and close contacts (other than 1234)	Collect two faecal samples at least 48 hours apart; no exclusion required
			Contacts of overseas acquired case	
			Co-travelling contacts	Collect one faecal specimen as soon as possible; no exclusion required
School children	Discuss case with SMO and, if required, exclude until above clearance criteria satisfied	Other contacts	No restriction	
Norovirus, rotavirus	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	All contacts	No restriction
VTEC	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	1234	Exclude until one negative faecal specimen provided
	1234	Exclude until satisfies clearance criteria: two consecutive negative faecal specimens taken 48 hours apart [‡]		
Yersinia	All	Exclude until symptom free for 48 hours	All contacts	No restriction

Under Part 3A of the Health Act, the MOH may issue a direction to health care workers considered at risk of transmission.

* Note: In an outbreak situation consider collecting one faecal sample from potential common-source contacts.

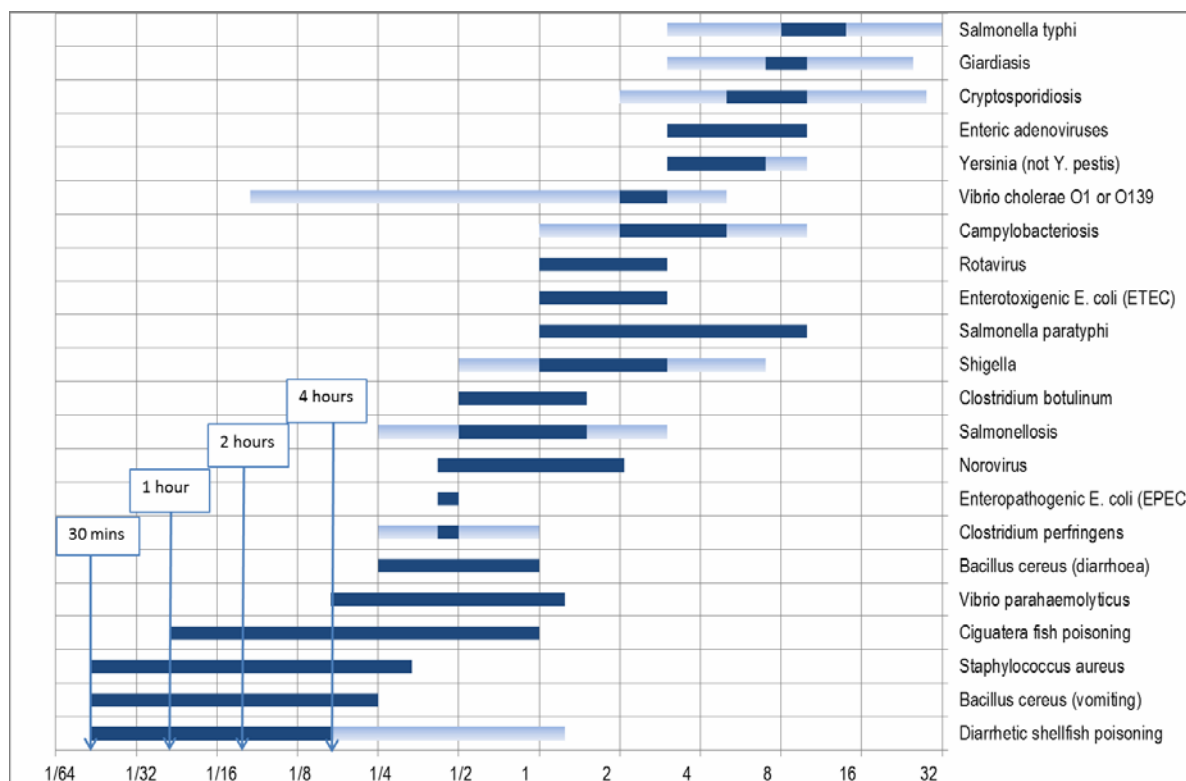
[†] Excludes *Salmonella* Paratyphi B var Java. Manage infections due to this pathogen as for *salmonella*.

[‡] Clearance may be waived by MOH in consultation with ECEC management for VTEC cases with prolonged shedding.

Incubation and infectious periods for enteric infections

Figure B1: Incubation period (in days, in log scale) for enteric infections

(Darker shade shows usual range, light shade possible range)



Source: Table 2.2 of Ministry’s Communicable Disease Control Manual. Data for crypto, DSP, and Yersinia adjusted based on other sources.

Table B1: Communicable period for enteric disease with person-to-person transmission

Infection	Period of communicability
Enteric adenoviruses	Highest risk in the first few days of symptoms; up to months
Giardiasis	Up to months
Norovirus	During symptoms and until 48 hours after diarrhoea ceases
Rotavirus	During symptoms and until approximately 8 days after onset of symptoms.
	Up to 30 days after onset of symptoms in immunocompromised patients
Shigellosis	Up to 4 weeks after infection. Asymptomatic carriage may also occur. Rarely, faecal shedding may persist for months