



Employee Illness

As a provincially or federally licensed meat plant you would have been required to have an Employee Illness Policy that includes the following:

- The requirement that any person who works in an area where you manufacture, prepare, store, package or label food or where you slaughter a food animal, and who has a disease or illness, symptoms of a disease or illness, reports them to you.
- You ensure that employees are aware that they are required to report a disease or illness, symptoms of a disease or illness to an identified responsible person in the establishment.
- You ensure that persons working in an establishment are aware that they are required to report a disease or illness, symptoms of a disease or illness to an identified responsible person in the establishment.
- Employers should develop policies specifically intended to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace. These should be clearly communicated to employees and assurances should be sought to understanding.

What To Do if An Employee Suspects they have COVID-19

If an employee develops COVID-19 symptoms, meat plants are required to follow public health measures put in place to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Public health authorities have communicated the following directives:

Employees who have COVID-19 symptoms must:

1. Advise their manager immediately.
2. Contact their local public health authority or medical practitioner and follow their advice.
3. Immediately be isolated from others and sent home without using public transit, if possible.
4. Employees who are at home with symptoms of COVID-19 must follow the advice of their local public health authority.
5. authority.

Meat plants should:

1. Enhance their cleaning and sanitation efforts to control any risks that might be associated with workers who are ill, regardless of the type of virus or bacteria. This is in addition to regular cleaning and sanitation activities.
2. Additional guidance should be sought from local public health authorities.

What To Do if An Employee is Confirmed to have COVID-19 Steps Meat Plants should take if an employee tests positive for COVID-19.

Work with local public health authorities and your provincial or federal inspectors.

1. Investigate the employee's recent shifts and direct contacts.
2. You may or may not choose to close your business, section of your business or continue to operate based in the outcomes of the investigation.
3. It is recommended to conduct intensive sanitation activities in any affected areas, including welfare areas.
4. Communicate to the public via social media, store signage, etc. regarding potential contact with affected
5. employee.

Can COVID-19 Be Transmitted via Food

According to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), "there is currently no evidence that food is a likely source or route of transmission of COVID-19."

The CFIA does not anticipate any food product recalls or withdrawals from the market due to COVID-19 contamination. Currently, there have been no reported cases of food or food packaging being associated with the transmission of COVID-19.

Published April 9th, 2020