



What is campylobacter?

- Diarrheal illness caused by a group of bacteria. One of the most common causes of diarrhea in the world. It is not normally spread from person-to-person. More common in summer months.

What are symptoms that could occur?

- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Cramping
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Possibly fever

How is it spread?

- Eating raw or undercooked poultry or foods contaminated with the bacteria
- Drinking unpasteurized milk or contaminated water
- Contact with infected pets (dogs, cats, birds, farm animals) feces.

How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Primary care provider evaluation and laboratory cultures from sample of stool
- Most infections are mild and resolve on their own
- Encourage fluids
- In severe cases, antibiotics may be given (erythromycin or a fluoroquinolone)

How can campylobacter be prevented?

- Wash hands with soap and water before and after handling raw foods
- Thorough cooking of all poultry to reach a minimum internal temperature of 165°F
- Use separate cutting surfaces for meats and other foods, or wash thoroughly between uses
- Use pasteurized milk and milk products
- Do not drink water from unsafe or unknown sources
- Food-service workers or day care workers should report illnesses to their supervisor and not return to work until the illness is gone with permission from the primary care provider
- Hand washing after contact with pets or animals and also their feces
- Use good hygiene; wash your hands and your children's hands with soap and warm water

Should the sick individual be isolated?

- Persons infected need not be isolated from other people unless stool is not contained
- Groups of cases in a school or day care should be reported immediately to the Health Department at **257-1017**

Should facilities do special cleaning?

- Special cleaning is not necessary. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended.

If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017