FOOD SAFETY MULTIMEDIA TRAINING HOT WORDS AND DEFINITIONS

ADA The Americans with Disabilities Act. Guarantees equal

opportunity for individuals with disabilities in public

accommodations, employment, transportation, State and local

government services, and telecommunications.

A type of bacterium that must have oxygen to grow.

AEROBIC

AIR GAP An unobstructed, open, vertical space between a supply of

potable water and any possible source of contamination. It is a

device used as a preventive measure against backflow.

ALKALINE A substance that has a pH of more than 7.0.

ANAEROBIC A type of bacteria that can live and grow with little or no oxygen.

ANISAKIASIS Certain types of fish can cause this disease sometimes referred

to as "sushi stomach." It is caused by the anisakis worm parasite that is killed when the fish is cooked or frozen.

ANTIMONY A brittle, lustrous white metallic element. Used chiefly in metals

and medical compounds. Equipment containing antimony should not be used in any phase of food preparation.

AFLATOXIN The aspergillus mold can produce this toxin.

ASPERGILLUS MOLD A mold that produces a toxin associated with foodborne illness.

Foods that can be contaminated by molds include grains,

breads, and nuts.

BACILLUS CEREUS One of a group of bacteria that can form spores. It is very

common in soils where vegetables and grains are grown.

BACKFLOW The flow of contaminants from nonpotable water sources into

the supply of potable water.

BACKFLOW PREVENTER An approved mechanical device designed to block the flow of

contaminants from nonpotable water sources into the supply of

potable water.

BACK SIPHONAGE A form of backflow that can occur when the pressure in the

potable water supply drops below the pressure of the

contaminated water supply.

BACTERIA Single-celled microorganisms that require food, moisture, and

warmth to reproduce. Some bacteria can cause foodborne

infection and intoxication.

Bacterium—singular. Bacterial—adjective.

BIMETALLIC Made or consisting of two metals. In metal stemmed

thermometers, there is typically a layer of stainless steel on the

outside of the stem, and another metal on the inside.

BOTULISM Type of food intoxication cause by *C. botulinum*. It will develop

only without air, and occurs in inadequately processed foods, such as canned foods, meats, many kinds of vegetables, and

smoked products.

CADMIUM A metallic element resembling tin in appearance. Equipment

containing tin or cadmium should be avoided in all phases of

food preparation.

CALIBRATE To determine, check, and then rectify, the accuracy of a

thermometer.

CAMPYLOBACTER JEJUNI This organism is believed to be one of the leading causes of

foodborne illness. It is frequently found in beef, pork, lamb, poultry, unpasteurized milk, and sometimes in contaminated

raw vegetables.

CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS An intestinal infection caused the Campylobacter bacteria,

which is frequently found in beef, pork, lamb, poultry, unpasteurized milk, and sometimes in contaminated raw

vegetables.

CCPs Refers to "Critical Control Points" in a HACCP system. These

are the parts of the process where a hazard may be detected

and/or eliminated by the action taken at the time.

CERTIFIED Having or proven to be competent based on the completion of

specified standards or criteria, such as an exam, training, or an

educational degree program.

CERTIFICATION Proof, as in a certificate or license, that someone is certified.

CIGUATERA POISONING A toxin that is not produced by fish, but rather from algae the

fish eat that contain the naturally occurring toxin. Ciguatera is one of the most common causes of seafood poisoning. Cooking, freezing, or canning does not destroy the toxin.

CLOSTRIDIUM BOTULINUM A bacterium that grows without air in improperly processed

food, and causes the disease called botulism.

CLOSTRIDIUM A common bacterium found in the intestinal tract of humans and

animals, as well as in soil, water, and dust. Poor employee hygiene and unsafe food handling methods often spread it.

COMMENSAL RODENTS Rodent species that live in conjunction with humans, sharing the

same food.

PERFRINGENS

COMPLIANCE The act of conforming or obeying certain specified rules or

regulations. *Comply*—verb.

CONDIMENT Something that is used to give special or additional flavor to

food, such as ketchup and mustard.

CONTAMINANT A harmful substance that can cause injury or illness to a person

who ingests it.

CONTAMINATION The presence of harmful substances in food that can cause

injury or illness to a person who eats or tastes it.

Contaminated—adjective.

CROSS-CONTAMINATION The transfer of harmful substances from one food to another

food either by employee handling or by improperly cleaned and

sanitized equipment.

CRUSTACEAN Chiefly aquatic, typically having a body covered with a hard shell

or crust. Includes shrimp, crab, and lobster.

DORMANT Present, but temporarily inactive until the right conditions

present themselves.

FACULTATIVE BACTERIA A type of bacteria that has the ability to grow with or without air.

FDA The Food and Drug Administration. This is the federal agency

that develops and enforces interstate regulations regarding the safety, composition, quality (including nutrition), and labeling of foods, food additives, and food colors. The FDA publishes documents about food sanitation and enforces laws and regulations concerning food service operations by interstate

carriers.

FECES Waste matter discharged from the intestines through the anus.

FIFO An abbreviation for the phrase "First In: First Out:" The

practice of using older food items before newer ones.

FOODBORNE A sickness or injury that is the direct result of eating

contaminated foods.

FOOD CODE The Food Code, published by the FDA, U.S. Department of

Health and Human Services, is the most recent publication for food safety guidance in the food service industry. Note that the Food Code contains recommendations, or guidance, and is not

the law.

FOODBORNE INFECTION Caused by harmful live germs or microorganisms that are

present in food when consumed.

FOODBORNE INTOXICATION

Illness caused by food containing the toxins produced by

harmful microorganisms.

FUNGI Includes both molds and yeasts that grow readily on all types of

food, in moist or dry environments, at any temperature.

Fungal—adjective.

GASTROINTESTINAL Affecting the stomach and intestines.

HACCP An abbreviation for the "Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point"

system. This is a procedure for monitoring and evaluating food preparation that lowers the risk of contamination and foodborne

illness. This system is now accepted by within the food

industry.

HEMORRHAGIC COLITIS A dangerous strain of bacteria that is often passed by fecal

contamination. The microorganism may cause serious illness and possibly death in children, and adults with weakened

immune systems.

HEPATITIS A A highly contagious virus affecting the liver. It is usually spread

by infected food service employees or contaminated shellfish. It is more likely to be transmitted through unheated food items

such as salads and sandwiches.

HYGIENE Habits necessary for establishing and maintaining good health

and preventing the spread of illness.

IMMUNIZATION A shot or vaccine that protects people from contracting certain

types of illnesses.

INCUBATION PERIOD The time that passes before the symptoms of a disease occur.

LISTERIA A bacterium found in the soil that can contaminate food and

cause the foodborne illness listeriosis.

LISTERIOSIS The foodborne illness caused by the listeria bacteria. Listeria is

a bacterium found in the soil that can contaminate food.

MAP Modified Atmosphere Packaging. A food packaging technique

that replaces oxygen with nitrogen or carbon dioxide to inhibit

the growth of bacteria and preserve shelf life.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA

SHEETS (MSDS)

Required by OSHA, chemical manufacturers ship these with their products. They provide information on proper storage,

usage, and treatment if the product is improperly used.

MICROBIOLOGY The study of microorganisms.

MICROORGANISM Tiny life-form, including bacteria, that can only be seen through

a microscope.

NAUSEA Sickness in the stomach often accompanied by a lack of desire

for food, and the need to vomit.

NON-TOXIC Not poisonous.

NONPOTABLE WATER Water that is not fit to drink. Can be used in air conditioning

and fire protection systems.

NOROVIRUS A disease of the gastrointestinal tract normally passed by

means of poor personal hygiene.

PARASITE Organism that lives within or feeds off of other organisms.

Parasites are many times larger than bacteria and viruses. Most commonly found in hogs, fish, and contaminated water.

PASTEURIZATION Pasteurization is a process of heating foods to a certain

temperature for a specific amount of time to kill bacteria.

pH A measure of the acid or alkaline content of a solution; pH 7.0

is neutral, below 7.0 is acidic, and 7.1 to 14.0 is alkaline.

PHF (TCS) Potentially hazardous foods time/temperature control for safety.

Foods that provide optimum conditions for bacterial growth that require time and temperature controls to limit pathogenic

microorganism growth or toxin formation.

POTABLE WATER Water that is safe for drinking.

PSEUDOMONAS A type of bacteria that must have oxygen to grow. This is the

type of bacteria that causes food to spoil the most.

QUATERNARY AMMONIUM Usually referred to as "quats." A chemical sanitizing compound

that is relatively safe for skin contact and won't corrode most surfaces. It is effective in both acid and alkaline solutions.

RATITES Being any of a group of flightless birds, such as an ostrich

or emus, having a flat breastbone without the keellike

prominence characteristic of most flying birds.

SALIVA A colorless, watery fluid in the mouth that functions in the

tasting, chewing, and swallowing of food, keeps the mouth moist, and starts the digestion of starches. Commonly referred

to as "spit."

SALMONELLA The bacterium that causes salmonellosis if allowed to grow in

food. Commonly found in the intestines of people and animals

such as rodents, dogs, cats, ducks, and chickens. Cockroaches and flies can also carry this bacteria.

SALMONELLOSIS One of the most common types of foodborne infections. It can

cause death in people with weak immune systems or in elderly

people.

SANITARY Clean and free of harmful organisms.

SANITIZE The final step after washing and rinsing to reduce the number of

harmful microorganisms. Very hot water --171°F (77°C) or a

chemical solution that kills microorganisms is used.

Sanitized—adjective.

SANITIZER Very hot water --171°F (77°C) or a chemical solution that kills

microorganisms.

SANITATION In the food industry, the creation and maintenance of hygienic

and healthful conditions relative to the production of food

products.

SCOMBROID POISONING Occurs when fish such as mahi mahi (dolphinfish), tuna,

mackerel, bluefish, and amberjack are not properly refrigerated and begin to spoil. Scombroid poisoning is a common cause of

seafood illness.

SHIGELLA A bacteria found in the intestines of humans. It can be killed

easily by cooking.

SHIGELLOSIS A foodborne illness caused by the shigella bacteria. It typically

results when hands are not washed after a person uses the restroom, and then that person touches a food that will not be

cooked.

SOUS VIDE A method of cooking that is intended to maintain the integrity of

ingredients by heating them for an extended period of time at

relatively low temperatures.

SPORE The dormant stage of a bacterium that has formed thick walls to

resist heat and lack of moisture. It is capable of returning to a vegetative state where it can grow and multiply and cause

foodborne illness.

STAPH Short for "staphylococcal intoxication", which is a type of food

poisoning caused by toxins excreted by tiny bacteria that live in

and on the human body.

STAPHYLOCOCCUS

AUREUS

A microorganism commonly found in the nose, throat, skin, and

especially in infected cuts, pimples, or boils of humans.

Staphylococcal intoxication, commonly referred to as "staph," is

the food poisoning caused by toxins excreted by these

microorganisms. They grow fast in moist foods high in protein, and are commonly spread by infected workers and workers with poor hygiene habits. The improper holding and storing of foods

enables staph to grow to hazardous levels.

STAPHYLOCOCCAL INTOXICATION

CAL Commonly referred to as "staph," it is the food poisoning

caused by toxins excreted by tiny bacteria that live in and on the

human body.

SULFITE A preservative used to maintain the freshness and color of fresh

fruits and vegetables. The use of sulfites is subject to state

regulations.

SURFACTANT A chemical agent in detergent that reduces surface tension,

allowing the detergent to penetrate and soak dirt loose.

TOXIC Poisonous.

TOXIN A poisonous substance of plant or animal origin.

TRICHINOSIS A disease caused by the *Trichinella spiralis* parasite. It can be

found in infected pork or wild game, such as bear or buffalo. This parasite can be effectively destroyed by proper cooking

temperatures.

TYPHOID FEVER A bacterial infection caused by Salmonella typhi. Symptoms

include fever, headache, intestinal inflammation, ulceration, and constipation in adults. It is transmitted by the fecal-oral route.

UNCONTAMINATED Free of harmful substances.

UNPASTEURIZED Not pasteurized. Pasteurization is a process of heating foods to

a certain temperature for a specific amount of time to kill

bacteria.

UNSANITIZED Something that has not had the bacteria reduced to safe levels.

Unsanitary—adjective.

VACUUM-PACKED Food processing methods where food is packed using a system

that withdraws all air from the package. Gases are sometimes

added after the air is removed, to aid in preserving food.

VARIANCE An official permit by a regulatory agency to do something

normally forbidden by regulations. In the case of a foodservice operator, a variance might require certain documentation or proof of process. In the case of food, a HACCP plan might be

required.

VIBRIO Referred to as "vibrio." A common bacterium that thrives in

PARAHAEMOLYTICUS seawater and is associated with pollution. This microorganism

is one of the most common causes of bacterial foodborne infections caused by seafood. Seafoods that carry this bacterium include oysters, shrimp, and blue crabs.

VIRUS A disease causing agent even smaller than bacteria that does

not multiply in foods, but can be transmitted to food by infected food workers, and then to those who eat the food. Poor personal hygiene often contributes to the spread of a virus to

foods.

Viral—adjective.

YERSINIA The bacterium that causes yersinosis. It is found in the

intestines of animals and humans. The bacteria continue to multiply even at temperatures below 41 °F; however, thorough

heating will destroy it.