Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) infection guideline

Flowchart 1 for risk assessment and management of cases

High risk groups (HRG):
- Child under 5 years or person unable to maintain good hygiene
- Food handler
- Carer (of children under 5, those unable to maintain good hygiene or elderly)
- Health care worker

Is case in an HRG?

Yes

U5/unable to maintain good hygiene

Exclude from childcare/equivalent setting until 2 successive negative faecal samples are obtained at least 24 hours apart and not sooner than 48 hours after the last dose of antimicrobials (if administered). In the instance of prolonged carriage, case is to remain excluded from childcare until microbiological evidence of clearance.

No

Carer/health care worker/food handler

Exclude from work until microbiological evidence of clearance is obtained. In the instance of prolonged asymptomatic carriage, case may return to work to undertake alternative non-high risk duties, until microbiological evidence of clearance.

Exclude until 24 hrs post symptom resolution. Obtain evidence of microbiological clearance.

Note: evidence of microbiological clearance consists of 2 successive negative faecal samples obtained at least 24 hours apart and not sooner than 48 hours after the last dose of antimicrobials if administered.