

May 1, 2020

Resources for Stakeholders

New CDC Report

COVID-19 Among Workers in Meat and Poultry Processing Facilities

Today at 12pm Central Time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publicly released a report by several dozen experts about COVID-19 among workers in 115 meat and poultry processing plants in 19 states, including Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Findings include observed challenges and recommended changes in facility practice, adding “the recognized risk to meat and poultry facility operation requires prompt action to decrease risks to workers, preserve facility function, and maintain the food supply.”

PDF attached: CDC MMWR Meat and Poultry mm6918e3-H

Direct link to report: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/Novel_Coronavirus_Reports.html

Near-Term Issues in Food Supply Chain

Pork Supply Chain and Mass Depopulation Recommendations

The Food Protection and Defense Institute (FPDI), a Homeland Security Emeritus Center of Excellence at the University of Minnesota, is producing a series of reports with recommendations related to the pork supply chain and mass depopulation issues. All five FPDI updates are in the attached PDF, starting with the last night’s update and followed by earlier ones. This document is not available online but may be shared with stakeholders who need the information.

PDF attached: 2020.04.30 Update - Near Term Issue Mass Pork Depopulation

CDC/OSHA: Meat and Poultry Processing Workers and Employers

Interim Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

This detailed [CDC webpage](#) includes links to numerous resources, including:

- Exposure risk among meat and poultry processing workers
- Creating a COVID-19 assessment and control plan
- Poster showing how to align meat processing workstations, if feasible
- Administrative controls and social distancing tips
- Free, simple posters in multiple languages to download and print

Direct link to webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/meat-poultry-processing-workers-employers.html>

Example of CDC Memo for South Dakota Pork Processing Plant

For reference, the South Dakota Department of Health requested an Epi Aid for assistance in developing strategies to help reduce SARS-CoV-2 infections among Smithfield Foods Sioux Falls pork processing plant employees. A team from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) traveled to Sioux Falls, South Dakota for an Epi Aid on April 14, 2020. The CDC team included veterinary epidemiologists, an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer, an industrial hygienist, and a Laboratory Leadership Service Officer.

The recommendations in [this memorandum](#) are steps that Smithfield Foods may want to consider implementing to address the conditions CDC identified at the plant. These recommendations are discretionary and not required or mandated by CDC.

PDF attached: CDC Pork Plant Memo Released to Public by State of South Dakota

Direct link to the 15-page memo: https://covid.sd.gov/docs/smithfield_recs.pdf

Free Posters in English and Other Languages

- CDC has free, simple [posters available to download](#) and print, some of which are translated into different languages.
- The [Stop the Spread of Germs poster](#) is available in [Amharic](#), [Arabic](#), [Burmese](#), [Dari](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Kinyarwanda](#), [Karen](#), [Korean](#), [Nepali](#), [Pashto](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Swahili](#), [Tigryna](#), [Ukrainian](#), and [Vietnamese](#).

Direct link to print resources webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html>

CDC/CISA: Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers

One of the PDFs available on the CDC page noted above is interim guidance by CDC and the DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for governments and businesses to consider for ensuring continuity of operations of essential functions.

PDF attached: CDC CISA Interim Guidance Critical Workers

Direct link to webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/critical-workers-implementing-safety-practices.pdf>
