Definitions

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MODULE 1

A case of food poisoning	**A person with symptoms usually diarrhoea and/or vomiting, who has become ill as a result of eating contaminated food and who has provided a specimen from which a food poisoning organism, toxin or poison has been isolated or is part of a confirmed food poisoning outbreak.**
An outbreak of food poisoning	**An incident in which two or more people, thought to have a common exposure, experience a similar illness.**
Carrier/s	**A person who harbours, and may transmit, pathogenic organisms without showing signs of illness.**
Causative agent	**The bacteria, toxin or poison that contaminates the food and causes the illness.**
Contamination	**The presence or introduction of a hazard. (EC Regulation No. 852/2004)**
Convalescent carrier	**Recovered from illness but is still excreting the organism.**
Cross-contamination	**The transfer of bacteria from contaminated food (usually raw) to ready-to-eat foods by direct contact, drip or indirect contact using a vehicle such as the hands or a cloth.**
Danger zone of bacteriological growth	**The temperature range within which the multiplication of most pathogenic bacteria is possible i.e. 5°C to 63°C. Most rapid growth takes place between 20°C and 50°C.**
Food hygiene	**All measures and conditions necessary to control hazards and to ensure fitness for human consumption of a foodstuff taking into account its intended use. (EC Regulation No. 852/2004)**