

Food Delivery and Take-out Tips for COVID-19



Public Health
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Wellesley Health Department

Unlike foodborne gastrointestinal (GI) viruses like norovirus and hepatitis A that often make people ill through contaminated food, COVID-19 is a virus that causes respiratory illness. **Foodborne exposure to this virus is not known to be a route of transmission.**

There is currently no evidence to support the transmission of COVID-19 associated with food or food packaging. Additionally, facilities are required to control any risks that might be associated with workers who are ill regardless of the type of virus or bacteria. For example, facilities are required to maintain clean and sanitized facilities and food contact surfaces.

According to the FDA, we do not anticipate that food products would need to be recalled or be withdrawn from the market because of COVID-19 since there is no evidence to support the transmission to be associated with food. The key in reducing COVID-19 exposure is minimizing person-to-person contact by maintaining social distancing.

How to Safely Order Take-out/Delivery During the COVID-19 Outbreak

- Maintain social distancing, six (6) feet apart, approximately within arm's length of one another when waiting in lines to check-out
- Request to keep the delivery contactless by having the courier leave your meal on your doorstep, front porch, lobby, etc.
- Use contactless payment by paying online or by phone if possible, if exchanging credit card or cash, lay it on the takeout counter, avoid touching hands directly



- Transfer the food from the packaging to a clean container in your kitchen
- Opt out of utensils from the restaurant, use your own kitchen utensils and dishware
- Wash your hands before enjoying your meal
- Avoid sharing utensils, food or drinks during this time
- Discard packaging after you finished your meal, wipe your counters and wash your hands