

CONSUMER ADVISORY REQUIREMENTS:

PURPOSE OF ADVISORY:

The consumer advisory is meant to inform consumers, especially susceptible populations (*i.e. elderly, children, pregnant mothers, immunocompromised*), about the increased risk of foodborne illness from eating raw or undercooked animal foods.

WHEN A CONSUMER ADVISORY IS REQUIRED:

If an animal food such as beef, fish, lamb, milk, poultry, or shellfish that is raw, undercooked, or not otherwise processed to eliminate pathogens is offered in a ready-to-eat form.

Examples of Risky foods

- Raw or undercooked eggs (*Caesar dressing, custards, sauces i.e. Hollandaise, etc*)
- Raw or rare meat (*hamburgers, etc*)
- Raw or undercooked seafood (*sushi, clams, oysters, etc*)

These types of risky foods need to be fully described in the menu selection. An asterisk referring to a footnote containing further information may also be used. For example, you can list Caesar Salad:

(A) Caesar Salad (*prepared with raw egg*); or

(B) Caesar Salad*

* *Contains raw or undercooked food products.*

In addition, if you serve raw or undercooked products the information of one of these statements should be included advising the health risks associated with consuming raw or undercooked products:

(A) Regarding the safety of these items, written information is available upon request

(B) Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness; or

(C) Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs, may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions.

The statement shall be displayed on brochures, deli cases, menus, stickers, table tents, placards, or other effective written means.

The intent is to have the advisory conveniently displayed for consumer awareness.

EXAMPLES OF CONSUMER ADVISORY:

- Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, eggs or unpasteurized milk may increase your risk of foodborne illness.
- Our Caesar dressing contains raw eggs. FYI, consumption of raw eggs may increase your risk of food-borne illness.
- All our hamburgers are cooked to the required minimum temperatures. Upon request, we will cook to your specifications. However, consuming raw or undercooked hamburgers may increase your risk of foodborne illness.
- Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions.

If you prefer a more detailed advisory we suggest the following;

- Eating raw or undercooked meat, poultry, eggs, or seafood poses a health risk to everyone, but especially to the elderly, young children under age 4, pregnant women and other highly susceptible individuals with compromised immune systems. The cooking of such animal foods reduces the risk of illness.
- There is a risk associated with consuming raw or undercooked foods such as meat, poultry, or seafood products. If you have chronic illness of the liver, stomach, blood, or have immune disorders, you are at greater risk of illness from raw oysters and should eat oysters fully cooked. If unsure, consult your physician.

Note: These are only suggestions. Any of the above advisories are acceptable provided they contain the necessary information. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact your local health department.

Consumer Advisory

According to the Ohio Food Code, effective March 1, 2005, a consumer advisory must consist of both a disclosure and a reminder.

Disclosure shall include:

- A description of the animal-derived foods, such as “oysters on the half shell (raw oysters),” “raw-egg Caesar salad” and “hamburgers (can be cooked to order),” **or...**
- Identification of the animal-derived foods by asterisking them to a footnote that states that the items are served raw or undercooked, or contain (may contain) raw or undercooked ingredients

Reminder shall include asterisking the animal-derived foods requiring disclosure to a footnote that states:

- Regarding the safety of these items, written information is available upon request **or...**
- Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness **or...**
- Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions

The consumer advisory can be presented by using brochures, deli case or menu advisories, label statements, table tents, placards, or other effective written means.

Note: If you cannot provide documentation to your local health inspector that beef steak served is whole-muscle intact beef, then you must provide a consumer advisory for that beef steak, as outlined above.

Example of menu with description disclosure and reminder

Renee and Jen's BISTRO

Appetizers

Salsa and chips

*OYSTERS on the half shell (RAW OYSTERS)

Cheese Sticks

Salads

House Salad

Cobb Salad

*Raw-egg Caesar Salad

Sandwiches

*HAMBURGER (served cooked to order)

Chicken club

Rueben

Dinners

*New York strip steak (served cooked to order)

*PORTERHOUSE steak (served cooked to order)

Baked chicken

Beverages

Soda pop

Iced tea

Coffee



*Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness

Example of menu with identification disclosure and reminder

Renee and Jen's BISTRO

Appetizers

Salsa and chips

*Oysters on the half shell

Cheese Sticks

Salads

House Salad

Cobb Salad

*Caesar Salad

Sandwiches

*Hamburger

Chicken club

Rueben



Dinners

*New York strip steak

*Porterhouse steak

Baked chicken

Beverages

Soda pop

Iced tea

Coffee

*These items are served raw or undercooked, or contain (may contain) raw or undercooked ingredients. Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness