



Public Health Information for Animal-Human Contact Sites

General Information:

- Animals may carry harmful microorganisms that can cause diarrhoea and other gastrointestinal symptoms in humans.
- The microorganisms are shed in an animal's faeces and sometimes saliva. After shedding, they may also survive in the animal's environment (such as railings, feed and water containers).
- Organisms of concern include: Salmonella, Campylobacter, E.coli and Cryptosporidium.
- Only touch or feed animals in designated areas. Always ask the owner's permission before touching exhibited animals.

**NO Hand-to-Mouth contact after touching
animals and their Environment**

ALWAYS wash hands prior to eating

Prevention is easy. Follow these recommendations:

- Always wash hands with soap and running water before eating.
- Wash hands with soap and water after touching or feeding animals, or their environment.
- DO NOT use baby wipes in place of hand washing as they do not kill germs such as E.coli 0157-H7.
- Avoid hand-to-mouth activities in livestock areas such as eating, smoking, nail biting, carrying toys, dummies, baby bottles, etc.
- High-risk individuals (children less than 5, elderly, pregnant and immune compromised people) should use heightened precautions.
- If you have additional questions about specific symptoms, risks or infections, contact your health care professional or SA Health (www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)