

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

SECOND ACMSF REPORT ON *CAMPYLOBACTER*

1. In 2000, the ACMSF agreed that a Working Group should be set up to revisit *Campylobacter* (the Committee issued an Interim Report in 1993).<sup>1</sup> The Working Group's terms of reference were **to identify any important gaps and omissions in action taken to reduce *Campylobacter* in food and food sources and in the knowledge base; and to develop advice which would assist the Food Standards Agency (FSA) in evolving its strategy for reducing the incidence of foodborne *Campylobacter* infection in humans.**
2. ACMSF Members have received periodic progress reports on the deliberations of the *Campylobacter* Working Group.<sup>2</sup> Reflecting the decision to feed ACMSF advice on *Campylobacter* into the FSA as and when it became available, rather than waiting for publication of the Group's Report, Members also cleared for submission to the FSA advice on on-farm control measures against *Campylobacter* spp. in chickens, and a report of a visit by Working Group members to Denmark and Norway.<sup>3</sup>
3. The Working Group has made substantial progress in developing its Report and a draft is attached. This is not a complete draft. Some work remains to be done. The Working Group is due to meet again on 8 October 2003 to finalise drafting, reflecting any comments made by Members of the full Committee (on 18 September). Clearance of any further material with Members of the full Committee will be done in correspondence, rather than holding it for clearance at the ACMSF's 4 December meeting. The Secretariat will also complete outstanding editorial work, including in relation to the references cited.
4. As explained in paragraph 1.18 of the draft Report, the Working Group has not addressed the question of research opportunities and needs where there are significant gaps in knowledge – so as not to delay the Report. However, the Working Group will consider meeting again later to explore possible future research needs, and will submit a supplementary report covering research at a later date, if appropriate. This would come to the full Committee for its consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> ACMSF. Interim Report on *Campylobacter*. HMSO London. ISBN 0-11-321662-9.

<sup>2</sup> ACM/564, 580, 599, 609, 617, 639.

<sup>3</sup> ACM/597, 618.

5. The draft Report is submitted for Members' comments. Members are also asked to indicate whether, subject to completion, and their approval of, the outstanding areas of work, they are prepared to adopt the draft as a Report of the full Committee and approve its submission to the FSA.

**Secretariat**  
**September 2003**

Drafting of the ACMSF's Second Report on *Campylobacter* is not yet complete and the Report has not yet been submitted to the Food Standards Agency.

A complete draft is expected to be publicly available towards the end of 2003. It is expected that the final Report will be published around the middle of 2004.