

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MICROBIOLOGICAL SAFETY OF FOOD

CHICKEN LIVER PÂTÉ AND *CAMPYLOBACTER*

At the September 2010 meeting the Committee considered the Food Standards Agency's paper on Foodborne outbreaks of *Campylobacter* associated with consumption of chicken liver pâté /parfait¹. It was confirmed that five outbreaks of *Campylobacter* associated with consumption of poultry liver pâté products were reported up to and including week 28 of 2010. The latest data provided by the Health Protection Agency (HPA) indicate that a further 7 outbreaks were reported up to the end of December 2010, bringing the total to 12 outbreaks reported for the whole of 2010. It is noted this 2010 data from the HPA is provisional.

The Committee in its deliberations raised several hypotheses for the increase in outbreaks including changes in culinary fashions, customer demands and preparation and cooking advice not reaching the intended target².

Professor Tom Humphrey will present further data from studies on the contamination of chicken livers with *Campylobacter*.

Members are invited to comment on the issues raised in the presentation.

**Secretariat
January 2011**

¹ <http://www.food.gov.uk/multimedia/pdfs/committee/acm996pate.pdf>

² <http://acmsf.food.gov.uk/acmsfmeets/acmsf2010/acmsf200910/acmsfmin230910>