Reported cases of Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli* (STEC) infection will no longer warrant immediate follow-up beginning January 1, 2020. Please investigate as a routine disease by completing all risk packages, including occupation, clinical, and risk information. **STEC cases will continue to generate immediate disease notification until the change can be formalized in a MAVEN software release in March 2020.**

STEC events were previously treated as an immediately investigated disease to ensure a new set of food exposure questions, not yet formally incorporated into MAVEN, were asked of all cases. These food exposure questions are now part of the risk question package in MAVEN and therefore immediate disease follow-up is no longer necessary.

Cases of hemolytic-uremic syndrome (HUS), a serious sequelae of STEC infection, are immediately reportable by clinicians and will continue to warrant immediate disease follow up.

As a reminder, the following resources are available to assist with STEC case investigation:
- **MDPH Fact Sheets:** [https://www.mass.gov/fact-sheets-on-infectious-diseases](https://www.mass.gov/fact-sheets-on-infectious-diseases)

Exclusion criteria exist for foodhandlers and daycare attendees:
- **Foodhandlers:** After diarrhea has resolved, food handlers may only return to work after submitting two negative stool specimens produced at least 24 hours apart. If the case was treated with an antimicrobial, the stool specimen shall not be collected until at least 48 hours after cessation of therapy.
  - In addition to including those who handle food directly, the MDPH definition of a foodhandler may also include individuals who work or volunteer in clinical or childcare settings, such as clinicians, nurses, dental professionals, pharmacists, medical aides, or daycare staff.
- **Daycare attendees:** Children with STEC infection should be excluded and not permitted to re-enter until their diarrhea is resolved and two stool specimens (taken at least 24 hours apart and 48 hours after antimicrobial therapy has been discontinued) are negative for STEC.

Additional guidance regarding special situations can be found in the *Guide to Surveillance & Reporting*, cited above.

If you have questions about MAVEN, please email isishelp@state.ma.us or contact the MAVEN help desk at 617-983-6801. If you have questions about foodborne disease investigation, please contact the Epidemiology Program at 617-983-6800.