

CONSUMER ADVISORY

Applicability: The consumer advisory is intended to apply to all food establishments where ready-to-eat (RTE) raw or undercooked animal foods or RTE foods containing raw or undercooked animal foods are sold or served to the public. PA Food Code Chapter 46, 3-603.11

Text size: Text size for hand held menus or table tents should be equivalent to 11 points (this example is 11-point text).

The consumer advisory is a critical item: The lack of a consumer advisory when necessary is considered a critical violation.

How to comply with consumer advisory:

1. **Disclosure:** Disclose what items may be undercooked.
 - a. What items are affected?
 - i. Use leading statements (raw, rare, "cooked to order") OR
 - ii. Asterisk (*) the foods in question (New York Strip Steak*) AND
 - b. Adjust menu to reflect the above OR in the absence of a menu, provide in written format to consumer via a pamphlet
2. **Reminder:** The goal of the reminder is to inform the consumer of the risks of eating raw or undercooked foods. This can be accomplished by utilizing *reminder statements* on the menu, placard, table tent, or by other written means OR by utilizing a brochure or pamphlet. The statement would be placed in another location on the menu, but reference the asterisked items. Examples:
 - a. * *"Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions."*
 - b. * *"Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness."*
 - c. When using a pamphlet as a reminder: * *"Regarding the safety of these items, written information is available upon request."*

**Erie County Department of Health
606 West Second Street
Erie, PA 16507
Telephone: 814/451-6700; Fax: 814/451-6775
www.ecdh.org**