Optional Questions to Elicit Dietary-Code Risks for Inappropriate Nutrition Practice

Food Safety Questions for Prenatal, Children and Infant Categories,

Instruction: Any "no" answer constitutes the use of dietary risk code D427 Inappropriate Nutrition Practices for infants, children and pregnant women for the ingestion of potentially harmful microorganisms.

- 1. Do you wash your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds before and after preparing food and eating food?
- 2. Do you wash your hands thoroughly after handling meat, fish, or poultry?
- 3. Do you avoid eating raw eggs, raw meat, and raw seafood?
- 4. Do you eat and drink only pasteurized milk products?
- 5. Do you keep hand soap and a *clean* towel by your kitchen sink?
- 6. Do you scrub out your sink regularly?
- 7. Do you avoid rinsing meat before cooking it?
- 8. Do you thoroughly cook all meats?
- 9. Do you follow proper cooking times and temperatures?
- 10. Do you thoroughly wash utensils and plates between using them with uncooked meat, poultry, or fish and reusing them to serve cooked or raw foods?
- 11. Do you avoid keeping fresh poultry or meat in the refrigerator for more than two days?
- 12. Do you marinate meats in the refrigerator?
- 13. Do you avoid using the marinade from meats unless it is boiled for at least 5 minutes first?
- 14. Do you always reheat leftover foods to at least 165 degrees F°?
- 15. Do you toss any leftovers that haven't been eaten within 3 days?
- 16. Do you dispose of any baby food after it's been opened in the refrigerator after 2 days?
- 17. Do you avoid reusing bottles or cups after someone else (including a baby) has used them, even if the contents have been refrigerated?
- 18. Do you rinse fruits and vegetables well under running water before eating them, even if they will be peeled?
- 19. Do you change your dish cloths and towels daily and/or use paper towels rather than sponges for kitchen clean-ups?
- 20. Do you clean your sponges and scrubbers in the dishwasher at least weekly or follow other methods to sanitize them often?
- 21. Do you keep pets off your countertops and sanitize countertops as needed?
- 22. Do you always wash your cutting boards with hot soapy water or in the dishwasher between uses and sanitize when needed?
- 23. Do you avoid thawing foods on the counter?
- 24. Do you only use one of the three acceptable methods for thawing foods safely: in the refrigerator, in the microwave, or in cool water that is changed frequently?
- 25. If you thaw foods by microwave or cool water, do you cook the food immediately after it's thawed?
- 26. Do you use a food thermometer when cooking?
- 27. Do you cool hot foods in shallow containers in the refrigerator?
- 28. Do you always tightly wrap or close leftovers before putting them into the refrigerator?
- 29. Do you check the temperature of your refrigerator regularly and keep it below 40 F°?
- 30. Do you check to make sure that your freezer stays at 0 degrees F° or lower?
- 31. Do you regularly clean out your refrigerator using hot soapy water?
- 32. Do you refrigerate all perishable food within 2 hours?
- 33. Do you label and date all leftover foods and lunch meats before storing them in the refrigerator?
- 34. Do you discard leftovers and opened packages of lunch meat after 5 days in the refrigerator?

Adapted from. Lisa Shulman and http://www.fshn.cahs.colostate.edu/Food%20Safety%20Materials/I lome%20Food%20Safety%20Checklist-SB.pdf Submitted by Julie Grunsky RD, Delta Health Care WIC Program 12/08