A Decision Guide to Food Handler Illness

Three questions to ask to determine if an employee’s duties need changed due to illness:

1) Do you have fever, vomiting, and/or diarrhea?  
   Yes  
   No

2) Does someone in your household have fever, vomiting, and/or diarrhea?  
   Yes  
   No

3) Do you have a cough, sore throat, or runny nose?  
   Yes  
   No

EXCLUDE FROM WORK

- Send home if at work.
- Symptoms must be gone for at least 48 hours before returning.
- Record symptoms in an Employee Illness log.

Doctor Diagnosed Illnesses:
Salmonella, Shigella, E. coli, or Hepatitis A must be reported to your manager and to the Vermilion County Health Department at 217-431-2662. Option 4.

WORK WITH PRECAUTIONS

- Reinforce proper hand washing.
- No bare-hand contact with ready-to-eat food or clean dishes.
- Discuss: Illness reporting, requirements for employees, ways that food workers can spread illness through food and prevention strategies.

EMPLOYEE IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE EXCLUDED OR RESTRICTED FROM NORMAL WORK DUTIES

However, if there are concerns about the spread of other communicable illnesses restrictions may be warranted.
Contact Vermilion County Health Department at (217) 431-2662 Option 4 with specific concerns.

If an employee suspects influenza-like symptoms (fever associated with cough, sore throat, or runny nose) or has been diagnosed with any type of influenza, consult with the CDC website (www.cdc.gov) or contact the Vermilion County Health Department (www.vchd.org) for the most up-to-date guidance.