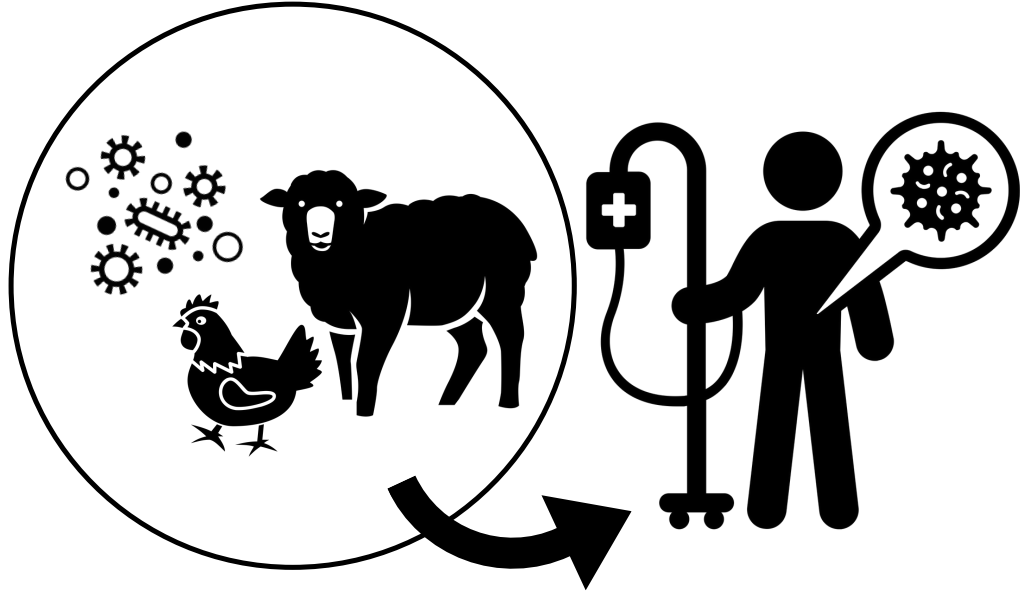
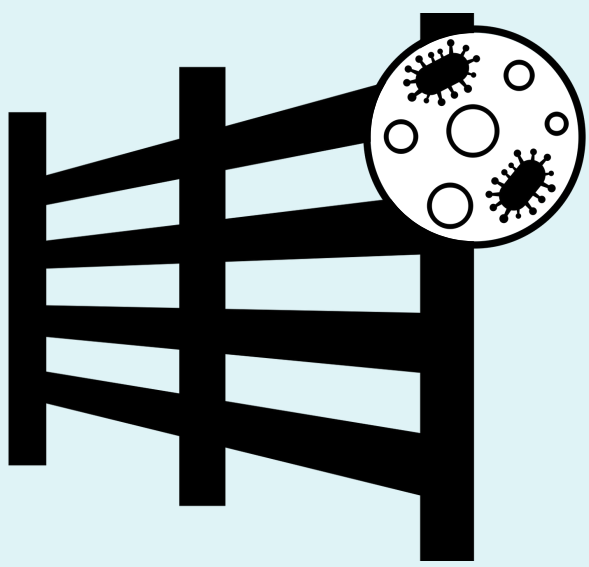


Tips for staying healthy at petting zoos and farms



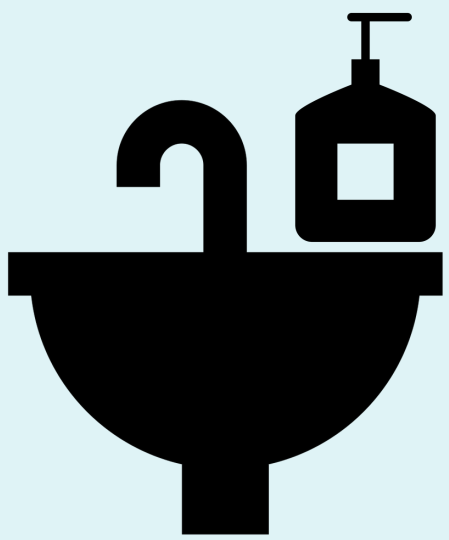
Animals that appear healthy can **spread harmful germs** that can make you sick.



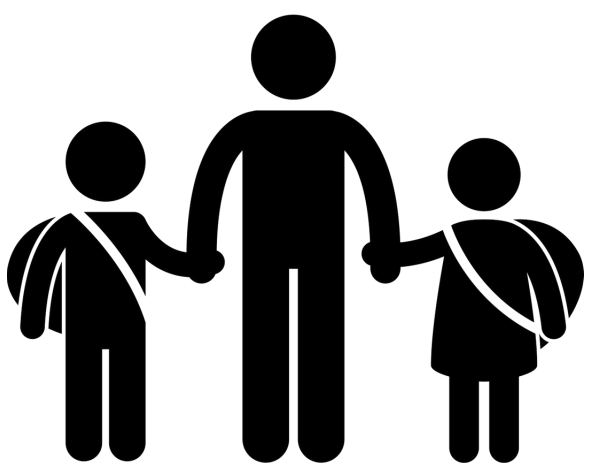
Injuries and illnesses have occurred from being near animals and their environment. **Harmful germs can be on surfaces around animal areas.**



Hand washing is the most important step you can take to prevent getting sick. Wash your hands *immediately* after leaving an animal area.



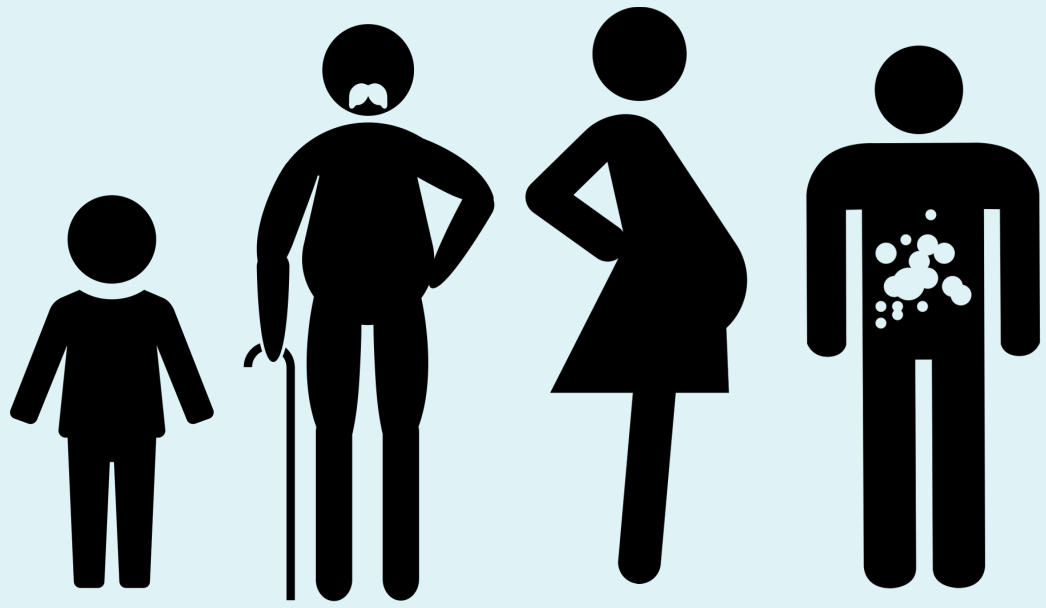
Wash your hands **even if you did not touch any animals.**



If you are supervising young children, always watch them carefully around animals and make sure they wash their hands thoroughly.

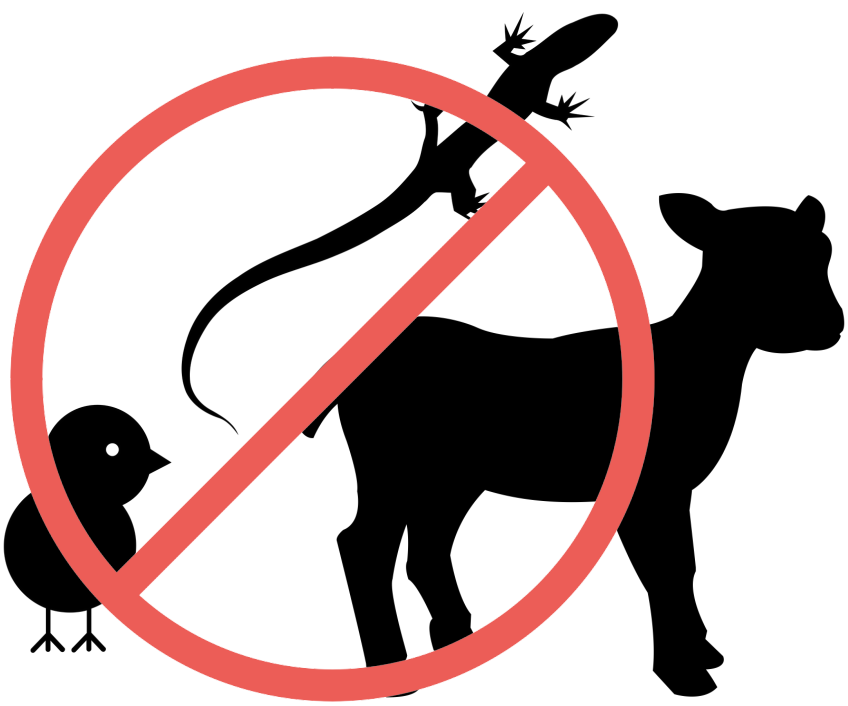


Make sure young children do not put their hands in their mouths (e.g. nail biting, thumb sucking). Do not eat or drink in animal areas.



You or a child in your care may be at higher risk for getting very sick from animals. People more likely to get sick and experience worse symptoms include:

- children under 5
- adults older than 65
- pregnant individuals
- people with weakened immune systems



If you or a child in your care is at higher risk for getting sick, avoid touching animals most likely to spread germs, including **pre-weaned calves, live poultry, reptiles, amphibians, lambs and baby goats.**



If you get sick after visiting a petting farm or zoo - even if you didn't touch or pet any animals - contact your health care provider and tell them about your visit. Vomiting, diarrhea and stomach pain are some common symptoms of illnesses that spread from animals.