Proposal for Task Force Consideration at the ISSC 2027 Biennial Meeting *(Tab to go to next field)*	1. a. ☑ Growing Area b. ☐ Harvesting/Handling/Distribution c. ☐ Administrative
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9. Proposal Subject	Request to add the use of MSC testing for illness investigations when the illness is known to be transmitted person to person.
10. Specific NSSP Guide Reference	Section II, Chapter II, @.01 A (2), B, G (1) (a), and G (2)
11. Text of Proposal/ Requested Action	@.01 A (2) Whether the disease has the potential or is known to be transmitted by shellfish and/or person to person; and @.01 B (3) If the disease is known to be transmitted person to person, the source state may conduct an investigation to determine if the growing area is implicated. The investigation shall include a review as outlined in Chapter II @01. G. and MSC sample data. In the event the producing state's review determines the source of the contamination is not from the growing area, the supporting data used to make the determination shall be forwarded to the Regional FDA Specialist. In coordination with the FDA Specialist, the Authority may reopen the growing area and no recall is required. G (1) (a) i. (a) If the disease is known to be transmitted person to person, the Authority may include MSC analytical sample results from shellfish in the implicated growing area in accordance with the MSC levels established in Chapter IV @.02E (4) or pre-determined MSC levels in shellfish established by the Authority based on studies conducted on regional species under regional conditions not impacted by sewage closures; iv. Examination of water quality during and subsequent to the illness outbreak; v. If the disease is known to be transmitted person to person, the Authority may review the extent of distribution of the implicated product: total harvest amount of the suspected product, total amount in distribution chain, and time frame from harvest to notification. This information will help inform the Authority if the outbreak is isolated to one distribution area, indicating post harvest contamination, or widespread indicating the illness is growing area related. G (2) Keep the area closed until at least 21 days have passed from the last date of harvest of the implicated shellstock if the illness is consistent with viral etiology unless the Authority can collect MSC samples in accordance with Chapter IV @03. A. (5) (d) (iv) a-c; and

12. Public Health Significance	MSC testing is permitted for reopening following a raw sewage discharge prior to 21 days. An Authority implementing MSC background monitoring and sampling of shellstock produces sufficient data to demonstrate that the area is not impacted by viral contaminants. In instances where the producing state can provide sufficient data and make a determination in coordination with their FDA Specialist that a shellfish growing area was unlikely to be the source of the outbreak, the investigation should be directed to other potential sources like person to person transmission.
13. Cost Information	The use of MSC sampling is not a requirement; therefore, if a state does not have the laboratory capability, they do not need to use this strategy.
14. Changes Needed to Guidance (if proposed change is adopted)	Relevant Chapter II guidance.