



JUNE 23, 2009

HEALTH UPDATE

Department of Health Investigates Third Food-Borne Outbreak

The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) is investigating a third possible food-borne outbreak causing gastrointestinal illness. The latest outbreak is associated with a wedding in McClusky held on June 20, 2009. This outbreak is likely being caused by *Salmonella sp.*

Treatment

- Antimicrobial therapy is not generally indicated for patients with either asymptomatic infection or uncomplicated gastroenteritis caused by nontyphoidal *Salmonella* species. Therapy does not shorten disease duration and can prolong duration of fecal excretion.*
- Antimicrobial therapy is recommended for gastroenteritis caused by *Salmonella* species in people at increased risk of invasive disease, including infants younger than 3 months and people with chronic gastrointestinal tract disease, malignant neoplasms, hemoglobinopathies, HIV infection or other immunosuppressive illnesses or therapies. Ampicillin, amoxicillin or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole is recommended for susceptible strains.*
- For invasive, nonfocal infections (such as bacteremia or enteric fever) 10 to 14 days of therapy is recommended.*

Laboratory tests are indicating that the previous outbreaks reported last week in the June 18th Health Alert were caused by *Salmonella* serotype Montevideo. Susceptibility testing indicates that the isolates are susceptible to Ampicillin, amoxicillin or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole and the quinolones.

To report cases or for further information, please contact Sarah Weninger, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2366 or toll-free at 800.472.2180.

*Source: American Academy of Pediatrics. In: Pickering LK, ed. *Red Book: 2006 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*. 27th ed. Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics, 2006: [579-584]

Categories of Health Alert messages:

- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, and hospital public information officers.