

State of Montana DPHHS HAN ADVISORY

Distributed via the DPHHS Health Alert Network (HAN) System

Monday January 20, 2008 9:20 AM

DPHHS Health Alert Hotline 1-800-701-5769

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DPHHS Recommendations:

1. At this time, bulk product from PCA has NOT been distributed in Montana AND no cases of *S. typhimurium* have been identified in Montana. However, this is an ongoing investigation and products that may contain the bulk product may be found to be in Montana as the investigation progresses.

2. Per CDC guidance, advise consumers not to eat products that have been recalled and throw them away in a manner that prevents others from eating them. Postpone eating other peanut butter containing products (such as cookies, crackers, cereal, candy and ice cream) until information becomes available about whether that product may be affected. Check <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html#update> for updates.

3. Providers should:

Be alert for symptoms of salmonellosis: fever, abdominal pain and diarrhea that may be blood

For patients with symptoms – ask about food history (including peanut butter and peanut butter containing products), travel, contact with ill persons and animals 5 days prior to onset of symptoms AND obtain a stool culture to test for enteric pathogens including *Salmonella*

Immediately report *suspected and confirmed* cases to local public health department. Isolates of *Salmonella* should be forwarded to the Montana Public Health Laboratory for further testing

Send *Salmonella* isolates to the Montana Public Health Laboratory for molecular testing. Call 1-800-821-7284 for details about submission of isolates.

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The goal of Montana's Health Alert Network is to transmit information to local public health authorities as quickly as possible, and assign a suitable priority to the message that is sensitive to the impact of a health-related event providing information relative to the public health and safety of Montanans. For questions or comments relative to Montana's HAN system you may contact the DPHHS HAN Coordinator, Gerry Wheat at <mailto:gwheat@mt.gov>

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; unlikely to require immediate action.

You have received this message based upon the information contained within our emergency notification data base. If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would like us to use please notify us as soon as possible by e-mail at hhshan@mt.gov <mailto:hhshan@mt.gov>

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This is an official

CDC Health Advisory

Distributed via Health Alert Network

January 17, 2009, 17:20 EST (05:20 PM EST)
CDCHAN-00280-09-01-17-ADV-N

CDC Investigation: CDC Investigation and Interim Recommendations: Outbreak of *Salmonella* Typhimurium Infections -- United States, 2008-2009

CDC, in collaboration with public health officials in many states and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), is investigating a multistate outbreak of human infections caused by *Salmonella* serotype Typhimurium. As of January 16, 2009, 9PM EST, 474 persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Typhimurium have been reported from 43 states. Infection may have contributed to 6 deaths. Of persons for whom data was available, 107 (23%) were hospitalized.

Of the 458 persons with available data, illness onsets were between September 8, 2008 and January 2, 2009. Age range was <1–98 years. A total of 47% of ill persons were females. The most severe illnesses occur among young children, the elderly, and people with impaired immune systems.

The number of ill persons identified in each state is as follows: AL(1), AR(4), AZ(10), CA(60), CO(11), CT(8), GA(6), HI(3), IA(1), ID(11), IL(5), IN(4), KS(2), KY(3), MA(40), MD(8), ME(4), MI(25), MN(35), MO(9), MS(1), NC(4), ND(10), NE(1), NH(11), NJ(19), NV(5), NY(19), OH(64), OK(2), OR(5), PA(14), RI(4), SD(2), TN(9), TX(6), UT(4), VA(20), VT(4), WA(13), WI(3), WV(2), and WY(2).

This outbreak involves a strain of *Salmonella* possessing two closely related pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE) patterns (Xbal JPXX01.1818 and JPXX01.0459\JPXX01.1825).

The case definition is illness in a person with a *Salmonella* Typhimurium infection with illness onset (or isolation, if onset date unknown) on or after September 1, 2008, and with an isolate matching an outbreak PFGE pattern. Epidemiologic Investigation

The investigation is ongoing, and exposures to peanut butter and other peanut butter-containing products are being examined.

Following hypothesis generating interviews conducted in December, CDC and state partners conducted a case-control study collecting data on January 3-4, 2009. Preliminary analysis of the case-control study among ill persons in multiple states suggested consumption of peanut butter as a likely source of this outbreak. To date, no association has been found with major national brand name jars of peanut butter sold in grocery stores.

An investigation by the Minnesota State Health Department identified King Nut creamy peanut butter as a source of *Salmonella* infections among many ill persons there. The outbreak strain has been isolated from an opened 5-

pound container of King Nut brand peanut butter in Minnesota. *Salmonella* has been isolated from unopened 5-pound containers of King Nut brand peanut butter in Connecticut and Georgia. Further tests are pending to determine if this *Salmonella* is the outbreak strain. This product is distributed to establishments such as long-term care facilities, prisons/detention centers, hospitals, schools, universities, and restaurants. It is not sold directly to consumers and is not known to be distributed for retail sale in grocery stores. King Nut is produced by Peanut Corporation of America in Blakely, Georgia. This facility is now recalling two products it makes: (1) peanut butter (made on or after August 8, 2008) and (2) peanut paste (made on or after September 26, 2008) at the Georgia facility. In many instances, the peanut butter and peanut paste is further distributed to manufacturers to be used as ingredients in many products, including cookies, crackers, cereal, candy and ice cream.

The list of products that may be affected is still being determined and is incomplete at this time. However, a list of products known to be implicated at this point in the investigation can be found at: <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html#update>. FDA and the product manufacturers are working to determine the list of affected products, which may be extensive. Some companies have already announced whether their products include ingredients being recalled by PCA, Georgia, and more companies are expected to make similar announcements.

CDC with state partners is continuing to identify and interview new cases (ill persons). To clarify the types of peanut-butter containing foods that are associated with the outbreak, CDC is currently conducting a second case-control study. State partners are also collecting and testing various peanut-butter containing foods.

Recommendations

Based on available information, CDC and FDA recommendations include:

For consumers:

Do not eat products that have been recalled and throw them away in a manner that prevents others from eating them

Postpone eating other peanut butter containing products (such as cookies, crackers, cereal, candy and ice cream) until information becomes available about whether that product may be affected.

For retailers

Stop selling recalled products.

For directors of institutions and food service establishments

Ensure that they are not serving recalled products.

For manufacturers

Inform consumers about whether their products could contain peanut paste from Peanut Corporation of America (PCA). If a manufacturer knows their products do not contain peanut paste from PCA, they should inform consumers of that.

To date, no association has been found with major national brand name jars of peanut butter sold in grocery stores.

For More Information

For the latest information about the epidemiological investigation, go to

<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/>.

For the latest information about recalled products, go to

<http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html>

More general information about *Salmonella* can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/>

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##This Message was distributed to State and Local Health Officers, Epidemiologists, State Laboratory Directors, PHEP Coordinators, HAN Coordinators and Public Information Officers as well as Public Health Associations and Clinician organizations##

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If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would like to be used, please contact the

Health Alert Network program at your State Health Department.

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