

State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Scott Walker, Governor Dennis G. Smith, Secretary

For Immediate Release April 4, 2012

Contact: Stephanie Smiley (608) 266-5862 Donna Gilson (608) 224-5130

WISCONSIN HEALTH AND AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING SOURCE OF SALMONELLA BAREILLY OUTBREAK

MADISON—Officials from the Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), and local health officials in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties are collaborating with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to investigate a *Salmonella* Bareilly outbreak. The Wisconsin cases are part of a multistate *Salmonella* outbreak that has caused 90 illnesses in 19 states. The source of the outbreak has not been identified at this time. This investigation is ongoing, and updates will be provided to the public as more information becomes available.

Since February, eight Wisconsin residents, all adults, have had laboratory-confirmed *Salmonella* Bareilly infections that match the DNA fingerprints of the national outbreak strain. Three of the eight patients were hospitalized and all of the patients have recovered from their infection.

County	Cases
Milwaukee	3
Waukesha	5

Health officials will continue to monitor for additional cases and have been supporting the national investigation by interviewing patients regarding their food history and other exposures. State health officials advise consumers to contact their doctor if they believe they became ill from eating potentially contaminated food.

Consumption of food contaminated with *Salmonella* can cause salmonellosis, which typically lasts 4 to 7 days. Most people infected with *Salmonella* develop diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps within 8 to 72 hours; some individuals may experience vomiting.

Since the organism is passed in the feces, and person-to-person spread of the bacteria is possible, people should follow proper hand washing methods. People should always carefully wash their hands with plenty of soap and water after bowel movements, and before and after food preparation. Parents should stress proper hand washing habits to their children. If soap and water is not available, use an alcohol hand sanitizer.

For more information about salmonellosis, visit: <u>http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/factsheets/Salmonellosis.htm</u>

For updates on the national outbreak, visit: http://www.cdc.gov/outbreaknet/outbreaks.html#salmonella

###