



Pat Quinn, Governor
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TO: Local Health Departments, Regional Offices of the Illinois Department of Public Health, Infection Control Professionals/Infection Preventionists, Infectious Disease Physicians, Hospital Laboratories

FROM: Connie Austin, D.V.M., M.P.H., Ph.D.
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DATE: August 4, 2011

SUBJECT: Recall of ground turkey products due to a *Salmonella* ser. Heidelberg Outbreak

Cargill Value Added Meats Retail has issued a voluntary recall on certain ground turkey items with establishment code P-963 (See specific notice at: <http://www.cargill.com/turkey-recall/>). Illinois residents with diarrhea and fever who report consuming ground turkey included in the recall notice prior to their illness, should be referred to their health care provider for possible *Salmonella* testing. Because a recall has been issued for the ground turkey products any product in their home under the recall notice should not be consumed and be discarded or returned for a refund. IDPH is not requesting ground turkey for testing purposes.

Cases matching the outbreak pattern have been identified in Illinois from Cass, Cook (Oak Park), DuPage, Madison, Peoria, Will and Williamson counties. Several of the Illinois cases reported eating ground turkey prior to onset of illness. The onset dates ranged from March 21 through June 29, 2011.

Laboratories are asked to report *Salmonella* cases to their local health department and forward *Salmonella* isolates as soon as possible to the Illinois Department of Public Health laboratories for serotyping and pulse field gel electrophoresis (PFGE).

For local health departments who have a case of *S. ser. Heidelberg* with PFGE patterns (Xba1: JF6X01.0058 or JF6X01.0032) please interview cases with a standardized questionnaire, available from the IDPH CDCS.

More information on this outbreak can be obtained from CDC's website (<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/heidelberg/index.html>) and USDA's website (http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_&_events/NR_072911_01/index.asp).