

DRAFT Web page

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### **Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) linked to eggs**

Food regulators, health authorities and Chief Veterinary Officers in Australia are investigating a rare strain of Salmonella (Salmonella Enteritidis) associated with human illness and egg consumption.

Confirmed human cases linked to this strain have been found in NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania. Detections of this strain have also occurred on chicken farms in NSW, and one farm in Victoria.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) is coordinating the response by food regulators under the National Food Incident Response Protocol.

The investigation has already resulted in a small number of food recalls coordinated by FSANZ, in March this year and in September last year. Biosecurity measures and other regulatory action are being applied to affected farms by the relevant authorities.

It is important to know that not all eggs are impacted, but if you have purchased recalled eggs, we recommend that you return the products to the place of purchase for a full refund, or discard the eggs into your garbage, and not into your garden. You should not feed these eggs to your pets, or livestock.

Australian authorities will continue to monitor and respond to this issue.

### **What symptoms does salmonellosis cause?**

Symptoms of salmonellosis are usually limited to mild gastroenteritis but may include fever, headache, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting. Patients usually recover within a week. But the illness can lead to systemic illness and other longer-term conditions.

Severe cases of diarrhoea can lead to significant dehydration which may require hospitalisation and medical intervention such as intravenous fluid replacement.

Although uncommon, long-term effects may occur include reactive arthritis.

This strain can be passed from person to person, however, this is more likely to occur in young children due to poor hand hygiene.

### **More information**

[NSW health information on the outbreak](#)

Department of Health Tasmania

[September 2018 recall notice](#)

[March 2019 recall notice](#)

### **Media enquiries**

Department of Health Victoria

Department of Health Tasmania

New South Wales Food Authority

Food Standards Australia New Zealand