

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) linked to illness and egg production.

The investigation has already resulted in a two recalls, one on March 19 this year and one in September last year, as well as biosecurity measures and other regulatory action relating to the affected farms.

The number of human cases linked to the strain include 148 in NSW, five in Victoria and one in Tasmania. This has been linked back to four egg farms in NSW, pending a fifth NSW farm.

The Salmonella strain has also been detected recently on a Victorian farm.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand is coordinating the food regulatory response under the National Food Incident Protocol.

Previous action by taken by NSW authorities has included:

- placing a Prohibition Order on the business that produced the eggs related to NSW cases
- preventing the business from selling eggs while the contamination was investigated
- releasing advice to consumers on the batches of eggs that were affected.

As the lead agency, the NSW Food Authority will continue to assess and manage the situation, including any incident-specific considerations such as animal welfare implications and potential biosecurity breaches.

What symptoms does salmonellosis cause?

Symptoms of salmonellosis are usually limited to mild gastroenteritis, with patients usually recovering within a week. But the illness can lead to systemic illness such as septicaemia 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](#)

[September 2018 recall notice](#)

March 2019 recall notice

Media enquiries

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