



Durham Region Health Department **FAX about...**

For Health Care Professionals



Multidrug-Resistant (MDR) Salmonella associated with travel to Mexico

The Public Health Agency of Canada is monitoring a number of illnesses of *Salmonella* Newport associated with travel to Mexico that have recently been determined to be multidrug-resistant (MDR). In September the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention issued a travel notice identifying a MDR strain of *Salmonella* Newport associated with travel to Mexico. Many U.S. travelers with MDR *Salmonella* Newport infections reported eating beef, cheese (including queso fresco and Oaxaca), beef jerky, or dried beef (carne seca) before they were ill.

As of November 1, 2022, there are a total of **157 Canadian isolates** (BC=30, AB=31, SK=3, MB=7, ON=56, QC=24, NL=1, NS=4 and NB=1) from December 11, 2018 – September 16, 2022, with **62 of these isolates from 2022**.

Antimicrobial susceptibility testing was completed on all isolates and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) to both azithromycin and ciprofloxacin was observed in 70% of isolates, with most isolates having additional resistance to trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, ampicillin, chloramphenicol, streptomycin and tetracycline. All isolates were susceptible to ceftriaxone.

Action Requested

Given that Mexico is a common destination for Canadians during the winter months and the concerning resistance profiles detected in this cluster, clinicians are advised to be vigilant; when seeing patients presenting with symptoms compatible with salmonellosis (e.g., diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps) and who have traveled to Mexico in the 7 days before illness onset, consider this strain of MDR *Salmonella* Newport in the differential diagnosis and consider submitting samples for culture and susceptibility testing to guide the choice of therapy if antibiotic treatment is indicated.

Testing

See PHOL's testing for Enteric - Bacterial Culture at <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Laboratory-Services/Test-Information-Index/Enteric-culture> (or search for "enteric" on the main PHOL website).

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



Reporting

Salmonellosis is a reportable disease of public health significance and must be reported to Durham Region Health Department.

Phone: 905-668-2020 or 1-888-777-9613 ext. 7369

Confidential fax: 905-666-1833

After hours: 905-576-9991 or 1-800-372-1104

The Diseases of Public Health Significance List and Notification Form can also be found on the Reportable Diseases [landing page](#) (or durham.ca/hcp, Forms, Reporting, Diseases of public health significance).

November 16, 2022

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