



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) – Advisory**

MESSAGE ID: MSHAN – 10292024 – 00599 – ADV (Health Advisory)
RECIPIENTS: All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, PAs, and
Healthcare Providers – Statewide
Tuesday, October 29, 2024

SUBJECT: E. coli Outbreak Linked to McDonald’s Quarter Pounders

Dear Colleagues,

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service are investigating a multi-state outbreak of *E. coli* O157:H7 infections with illness onset dates ranging from September 27 – October 10, 2024.
- **Currently, Mississippi does not have any reported cases of *E. coli* O157:H7 infection related to this outbreak.** (Associated cases have been identified in Washington, Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Michigan.)
- Most individuals involved in the outbreak reported eating the Quarter Pounder hamburger at a McDonald’s prior to becoming ill. [E. coli Outbreak Linked to McDonald’s Quarter Pounders | E. coli infection | CDC](#)
- CDC believes the risk to the public is low due to rapid recall actions taken by McDonalds and a supplier of slivered onions.
- Although Mississippi does not have reports of *E. coli* O157:H7 infections related to this outbreak, Mississippi healthcare providers are asked to keep *E. coli* O157:H7 and other shiga toxin producing *E. coli* (STEC) in their differential for patients presenting with severe stomach cramps, diarrhea (often bloody), and vomiting.
- If STEC is suspected, specific testing for STEC (e.g. stool culture or other testing specific for STEC) should be performed. All positive results for STEC should be reported to the Mississippi State Department of Health Office of Epidemiology at 601-576-7725 (601-576-7400 after hours or on weekends).
- For additional information regarding STEC infection please review the CDC website [E. coli Infection: Information for Clinicians](#)

Regards,

Kathryn Taylor, MD
State Epidemiologist



Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency:	Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program:	MS Health Alert Network (HAN)
Message Identifier:	MSHAN-10292024-00599- ADV
Program (HAN) Type:	Health Alert Advisory
Status (Type):	Actual ()
Message Type:	Advisory
Reference:	MSHAN-00599
Severity:	Unknown
Acknowledgement:	No
Sensitive:	Not Sensitive
Message Expiration:	Undetermined
Urgency:	Undetermined
Delivery Time:	600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency:	A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.
Alerting Program:	The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.
Message Identifier:	A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (ALT=Health Alert, ADV=Health Advisory, UPD=Health Update, MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service)).
Program (HAN) Type:	Categories of Health Alert Messages.
Health Alert:	Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory:	Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update:	Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
Health Info Service:	Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.
Status (Type):	
Actual:	Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise:	Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test:	Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded
Message Type:	
Alert:	Indicates an original Alert
Update:	Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel:	Indicates prior alert has been cancelled

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe: Significant threat to life or property
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).