

Salmonella Outbreak

Rita Foley:

There's new concern something in the produce aisle could make you sick. U.S. health officials are investigating a salmonella outbreak that's sickened at least 172 people in eighteen states. Most of those who got sick are adults, and more than sixty percent are women.

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It's believed the bacteria may be spread through some form of produce, possibly tomatoes or lettuce, but tracking the salmonella is tough. The CDC says the illness hasn't been tied to any specific product, restaurant, or supermarket chain. No one has died in the outbreak, which involves one of the most common types of the bacteria. The symptoms include diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramps, fever, and headache.

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A spokeswoman for Virginia's Department of Health says there are things you can do to protect yourself.

Lucy Caldwell:

We don't want to discourage people from eating healthy foods, certainly. But just remember to take precautions and to wash them thoroughly.

Rita Foley:

The salmonella outbreak is the latest foodborne illness to be in the news this year. Certain brands of packaged spinach, carrot juice, and beef were recalled nationwide after they were found to be tainted with illness-causing bacteria. Three people died and hundreds were sickened last summer by the spinach E. coli outbreak.

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Rita Foley, The Associated Press.

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