



KANE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Health Department warns of possible pot pie contamination**

The Kane County Health Department announced today that public health officials in multiple states across the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety Inspection Service are investigating an ongoing multi-state outbreak of Salmonella infections in humans. The investigation shows that eating Banquet brand pot pies produced by the ConAgra Foods company is the likely source of the illness. Between January 1, 2007 and October 9, 2007, at least 152 isolates of Salmonella with an indistinguishable genetic fingerprint have been collected from ill persons in 31 states.

“Although most people recover without treatment, severe Salmonella infections may occur. Infants, elderly persons, and people with impaired immune systems are more likely than others to develop severe illness,” Health Department Executive Director Paul Kuehnert said. “In severe infection, Salmonella spreads from the intestines to the bloodstream and then to other body sites, and death can occur if the person is not treated promptly with antibiotics.”

Ill persons whose Salmonella strain has this genetic fingerprint have been reported from Arizona (1 person), California (6), Connecticut (3), Delaware (5), Georgia (2), Idaho (6), Illinois (3), Indiana (3), Kansas (2), Kentucky (8), Massachusetts (5), Maryland (5), Maine (1), Michigan (3), Minnesota (6), Missouri (11), Montana (4), Nevada (6), New York (6), Ohio (8), Oklahoma (1), Oregon (2), Pennsylvania (13), Tennessee (5), Texas (4), Utah (2), Virginia (6), Vermont (2), Washington (2), Wisconsin (19), Wyoming (2). Their ages range from <1 to 87 years with a median age of 20 years; 49% of ill persons are female. At least 20 people have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

(MORE)

The Health Department is advising consumers not to eat any Banquet chicken or turkey pot pies or pot pies made by ConAgra Foods that have a printed code beginning in “5009” and ending in “P9” or “Est 1059.” Other brands of pot pies made in the ConAgra Foods factory that makes Banquet brand pot pies and sold under other brand names may also be contaminated with Salmonella. These other pot pie boxes also have a printed code ending in “P9” or “Est 1059.” If you have any of these products at home, the safest thing to do is to discard them.

ConAgra, which is cooperating in the investigation, will provide information regarding these products at: [www.conagrafoods.com](http://www.conagrafoods.com). Consumers with questions about these products may contact the company hotline at (866) 484-8671. Information on reported illnesses will be available at [www.cdc.gov/salmonella/](http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/)

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