

For Health Professionals

Health Alerts

Health Alert Advisory #112 - E. COLI 0157 - November 29, 2004

The Monroe County and Genesee County Departments of Health and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) are investigating two hospitalized cases of confirmed E. coli 0157 with a history of consumption of ground beef purchased at a market in Monroe County on November 11-12, 2004. Further investigation into the source of the infection is underway.

Also, the Erie County Department of Health is investigating a case of confirmed E. coli that does not appear to be related to the product purchased at the Monroe County market.

Because of the possible association of these cases with commercial ground beef and the potential for exposure of additional consumers, the NYSDOH is asking that surveillance for gastrointestinal illness in patients seen at your facility and affiliated clinics be heightened. Stool specimens should be obtained for enteric pathogens, including Escherichia coli, for patients who present with gastrointestinal symptoms including cramps, diarrhea, bloody diarrhea, or fever.

Any cases of suspect or confirmed shiga-toxin producing E. coli should be reported promptly to the Erie County Department of Health at (716) 858-7697 (Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM).

For additional information please visit the following link:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/escherichiacoli_g.htm