Cute but Risky?

Communication during Outbreaks of Illness Linked to Animal Contact

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NIAA Antibiotic Symposium
November 14, 2018
Risk Communication

- Virtually every day, crisis and emergency risk communication is needed somewhere in public health
- Providing information helps people make the best possible decisions for their health and well-being
Communication Regarding the Outbreak

Public Communication during Foodborne Outbreaks

Warning consumers quickly about a contaminated food can save lives.

Public health and regulatory officials work quickly to find the source of foodborne disease outbreaks so they can take action to prevent more people from getting sick.

During a foodborne outbreak investigation, officials collect three types of data: epidemiologic, traceback, and food and environmental testing. Health officials assess all of these data to try to find the likely source of the outbreak. They take action when there is clear and convincing information linking illness to a contaminated food. One of the most important actions public health officials can take to prevent illness is warning consumers quickly about a contaminated food.

Deciding to Communicate

Multistate foodborne outbreak investigations are complex and involve many partners at local, state, and federal health and regulatory agencies. CDC makes the decision to communicate about a multistate outbreak with input from all of these partners.

CDC follows a consistent process for evaluating the need to warn consumers about ongoing multistate foodborne outbreaks. The process includes considering why communication might or might not be needed. Rather than designing a rigid set of communication rules or policies, CDC and investigation partners developed a flexible and comprehensive guide on when, what, and how to communicate during an outbreak.

CDC is most likely to warn consumers when the investigation identifies a specific food linked to illness, and there is a continuing risk to public health because the food is still in stores or homes. In this scenario, there are specific, clear, and actionable steps for consumers to take to protect themselves from contaminated food. The company also may have recalled the food in this scenario.
Risk = Hazard + Outrage
Salmonella Illness Outbreaks linked to Backyard Poultry
Multistate Outbreaks of Human *Salmonella* Infections Linked to Live Poultry in Backyard Flocks, 2017 (Final Update)

- Case Count Maps
- Live Poultry FAQ

Posted October 19, 2017 11:00 AM ET

These outbreak investigations are over. However, people can still get a *Salmonella* infection from live poultry, including those in backyard flocks. Read more information about *Salmonella* from live poultry and how people can reduce the chance they or their children will get an infection.

**Outbreak Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1120</th>
<th>48</th>
<th>249</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
<td></td>
<td>States</td>
<td>Hospitalizations</td>
<td>Death</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- This year saw the largest number of illnesses linked to contact with backyard poultry ever recorded by CDC. Contact with live poultry or their environment can make people sick with *Salmonella* infections.
  - Live poultry such as chickens and ducks can be carrying *Salmonella* bacteria but appear healthy and clean, with no sign of illness.
  - As raising backyard flocks becomes more popular, more people are having contact with chickens and ducks – and may not know about the risk of *Salmonella* infection.
- These outbreaks are a reminder to follow steps to keep your family healthy while enjoying your backyard flock.
  - Always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water right after touching live poultry or anything in their environment.
HEALTHY FAMILIES AND FLOCKS

Live poultry, such as chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys, often carry harmful germs such as Salmonella. While it usually doesn’t make the birds sick, Salmonella can cause serious illness when it is passed to people.

HANDWASHING PROTECTS YOU FROM GERMS

- Always wash your hands with soap and water right after touching live poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam.
- Adults should supervise hand washing for young children.
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

HANDLE BIRDS SAFELY

- Children younger than 5 years, adults older than 65 years, and people with weakened immune systems should not handle or touch chicks, ducklings, or other live poultry.
- Do not bring chicks, ducklings and other live poultry to schools, childcare centers, or nursing homes.
- Do not snuggle or kiss the birds, touch your mouth, or eat or drink around live poultry.

SAFELY CLEAN COOPS

- Clean any equipment used to care for live poultry outside, such as cages or feed or water containers.
- Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while taking care of poultry and keep those shoes outside of the house.

POULTRY BELONG OUTSIDE

- Do not let live poultry inside the house, especially in kitchens.
- Do not let live poultry in areas where food or drink is prepared, served, or stored.

Have a Backyard Flock? Don’t Wing it. Visit www.cdc.gov/features/salmonelapoultry for more information.
CDC report crushes your chicken-kissing dreams
Prevention and Control—Consumer Education

I add oil of oregano to the drinking water from day one for the first month of the baby chicks life. Never had a problem of losing any or sick babies. All very healthy, and I also keep them separated from the rest of the flock for the first 2 weeks.

Like · Reply · October 13, 2016 at 8:53pm

Could you please PM me a State that is safe to purchase meat chicks from? We need chicks that are salmonella free. My little one loves to hold all of our chicks and love on them. We don't use anti-bacterial soap in our house or sanitizer.

Like · Reply · January 23, 2016 at 8:57am

And it will get much much worse when people can not buy antibiotic's for there flocks. As of the first of this year you will have to take your poultry to the vet HAHA yea right the closest avian vet here is 200 miles away?? I have called all of are local vets and none of them will help in any way because they no nothing about quail or chickens way to go Spread way more disease and or run out all the small guys that way we have no other choice but to go to buy are food from a store!!

Like · Reply · October 12, 2016 at 6:05am
Multistate Outbreak of Multidrug Resistant *Campylobacter* Linked to Pet Store Puppies
Conclusions

- Large, multistate *Campylobacter* illness outbreak linked to dogs
- No single source of infection, but likely disseminated throughout the industry
- Outbreak strain is resistant to common first-line antibiotics used to treat *Campylobacter* infections
- Highlights antibiotic resistance and the need for ongoing antibiotic stewardship
Communication Regarding the Outbreak

Multistate Outbreak of Multidrug-Resistant *Campylobacter* Infections Linked to Contact with Pet Store Puppies

**Final Update**

Posted January 30, 2018 3:45 PM ET

This outbreak investigation is over. Illnesses could continue because people may be unaware of the risk of *Campylobacter* infections from puppies and dogs. Information about how to prevent illness when handling puppies and dogs is available for pet owners.

**Final Outbreak Advisory (January 30, 2018)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>States</th>
<th>Hospitalizations</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CDC, several states, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) investigated a multistate outbreak of multidrug-resistant *Campylobacter* infections. Epidemiologic and laboratory evidence indicated that contact with puppies sold through Petland stores were a likely source of this outbreak. This outbreak investigation is over. Illnesses could continue to occur because people may be unaware of the risk of *Campylobacter* infections from puppies and dogs.

A total of 113 people with laboratory-confirmed infections or symptoms consistent with *Campylobacter* infection were linked to this outbreak. Illnesses were reported from 17 states. Illnesses started on dates ranging from January 12, 2016 to January 7, 2018. Illnesses ranged in age from less than 1 year to 86, with a median age of 27. Sixty-three percent of ill people were female. Of 103 people with available information, 23 (22%) were hospitalized. No deaths were reported. Whole genome sequencing (WGS)
Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing

Predicted resistant/resistant

Predicted susceptible/susceptible

Puppy

Human
Antibiotic Resistance Summary

- Observed in all three sub-clades
- Observed in human and puppy isolates
- Predicted resistance and antibiotic susceptibility testing correlated well

Where is multidrug resistance coming from?
Indication for Antibiotics Administered to 141 Puppies

- None: 5%
- Prophylaxis only: 55%
- Treatment and prophylaxis: 38%
- Treatment only: 1%
Most Common Antibiotic Classes by Number of Days Administered (i.e. Dog-Days)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antibiotic Class</th>
<th>Days Administered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitroimidazoles</td>
<td>997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfa drugs</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tetracyclines</td>
<td>422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macrolides</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinolones</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penicillins</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenicols</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aminoglycosides</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cephalosporins</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincosamide</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pet owners</th>
<th>Pet store employees</th>
<th>Healthcare providers</th>
<th>Veterinarians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>– Hand washing</td>
<td>– Hand washing</td>
<td>– Antibiotic resistance</td>
<td>– How to test for <em>Campylobacter</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Sanitation</td>
<td>– Sanitation</td>
<td>– Case management</td>
<td>– Sanitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– When to seek veterinary care</td>
<td>– Personal protective equipment</td>
<td>– Avoid antibiotics to which the outbreak strain is resistant</td>
<td>– Pet owner communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– Food storage away from animal areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>– Ill puppy should be examined by a veterinarian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Keeping Pets Healthy Keeps People Healthy Too!

Studies have shown that the bond between people and their pets can increase fitness, lower stress, and bring happiness to their owners. But there's something else you should know.

Pets sometimes carry germs that can make people sick. The diseases people get from animals are known as zoonotic (zoe-oh-NOT-ic) diseases. [Learn more about the benefits and risks of having pets](#).
Q: Should I even get a pet, if there's any risk it could give me a disease?

A: Pets provide many benefits for people, including companionship and protection, and pet ownership is a very rewarding experience. Many pet owners consider their pets to be members of their families.

The decision to get a pet is a personal decision, and should be based on a number of factors, including your family's lifestyle, living arrangements, and others. Although the possibility of disease is an important factor to think about, the risk is low and often considered to be outweighed by the benefits of pet ownership. Additionally, there are many simple things you can do to minimize your risk.
Antimicrobial Stewardship Definition and Core Principles

Antimicrobial Stewardship for Veterinarians Defined

Antimicrobial stewardship refers to the actions veterinarians take individually and as a profession to preserve the effectiveness and availability of antimicrobial drugs through conscientious oversight and responsible medical decision-making while safeguarding animal, public, and environmental health.

Core Principles of Antimicrobial Stewardship in Veterinary Medicine

Antimicrobial stewardship involves maintaining animal health and welfare by implementing a variety of preventive and management strategies to prevent common diseases; using an evidence-based approach in making decisions to use antimicrobial drugs; and then using antimicrobials judiciously, sparingly, and with continual evaluation of the outcomes of therapy, respecting the client’s available resources.
Puppies Linked To Bacterial Infection Outbreak Across 12 States

Bruce Y. Lee, CONTRIBUTOR
FULL BIO

Opinions expressed by Forbes Contributors are their own.

Puppies, like this one with Miley Cyrus, can be cute. But take proper precautions when handling them. [+] 

Puppy dog eyes can be adorable. Puppy love can be sweet. Puppy dog bloody diarrhea, not so much.
Poopy Puppies Poisoning People

By Bruce Clark on October 30, 2017

POSTED IN FOODBORNE ILLNESS OUTBREAKS

- CDC, several states, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) are investigating a multistate outbreak of multidrug-resistant *Campylobacter* infections.

- *Campylobacter* bacteria isolated from clinical samples from people sickened in this outbreak were found to be resistant to commonly recommended, first-line antibiotics. This antibiotic resistance means it may be difficult to treat infections with the outbreak strain with the antibiotics usually prescribed for *Campylobacter* infections.
Thank you!

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
Did the CDC Actually Tell People Not to Dress Their Pet Chickens Up for Halloween? Here's the Real Story