



## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release:  
March 11, 2016

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### **Pistachio-associated Salmonella Case Reported in North Dakota**

Bismarck, N.D.— The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) has been working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and other state health departments to investigate a multistate outbreak of *Salmonella* Montevideo (*S. Montevideo*) infections associated with Wonderful Pistachios.

Eleven cases from nine states have been reported, including one case from North Dakota. Other states reporting cases include Alabama, Arizona, Connecticut, Georgia, Michigan, Minnesota, Virginia, and Washington. Two cases were hospitalized. No deaths have been linked to this outbreak.

On March 9, 2016, Wonderful Pistachios voluntarily recalled a limited number of flavors and sizes of in-shell and shelled pistachios because they may be contaminated with *Salmonella*. The pistachios were sold under the brand names Wonderful, Paramount Farms, and Trader Joe's, and were sold nationwide and in Canada, Mexico, and Peru. The recalled products may be identified by a lot code number on the back or bottom panel of the package. A list of recalled products is available at [www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/](http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/).

The NDDoH recommends that consumers do not eat and retailers do not sell recalled pistachios. “Pistachios have a long shelf life, so people may still have some of the recalled products in their homes,” said Laura Cronquist, epidemiologist with the NDDoH, “Even if you’ve eaten some of the pistachios and haven’t gotten sick, please dispose of the remaining recalled product or return it to the place of purchase for a refund.”

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The most common symptoms associated with *Salmonella* infections, or salmonellosis, include diarrhea, abdominal pain, and fever. Symptoms typically begin within 12 to 72 hours after exposure to the bacteria, but can take as long as 16 days. Symptoms generally resolve without treatment in four to seven days, but severe cases and cases involving complications may require hospitalization. Severe illness is more likely to occur in infants, the elderly, and those with impaired immune systems. If you think you may have become ill from eating recalled pistachios, please contact your health care provider.

For more information about the *S. Montevideo* outbreak, please visit the CDC's website at [www.cdc.gov/salmonella/montevideo-03-16/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/montevideo-03-16/index.html) or contact Laura Cronquist, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2378.

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