Frozen *E. coli* snack: How did we find out about the added ingredient?

New York State

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Outline

- Intro to NYSDOH
- The Outbreak Team
- Timeline of Investigation
- NYS Case Count
- Questions
NYSDOH

- Home Rule State
- Local Health Departments (LHDs)
  - 57 Local Health Departments
  - 9 State District Offices
  - EH Component 21 Counties
  - New York City DOHMH
    - 5 Boroughs/Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Epi</th>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Food (EH)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bureau of Communicable Disease Control (BCDC)</td>
<td>Wadsworth Center (WC)</td>
<td>Bureau of Community Environmental Health and Food Protection (BCEHFP)</td>
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Who is on the Team?

County and City Health Departments

State District Offices

State Regional Offices

Laboratories

Hospitals

Commercial

Fed Agency

State Agency

City and County

BCEHFP

BCDC

Federal Agencies

CDC

FDA

USDA

State Agencies

Agriculture and Markets

Department of Environmental Conservation
The Start

- February 14, 2013
  - State Lab (WC) notified Epi (BCDC)
    - STEC case, 2 enzyme match, multi-state cluster
      - Onset: January 30, 2013
      - Initial interview by LHD
        - Frozen hamburgers
        - Shopped at 2 grocery stores
    - CDC indicated pattern above baseline nationally
Case was re-interviewed with the NYSDOH STEC HGQ

Shopper Card Release for 1 of 2 grocery chains obtained by LHD and secured by NYSDA&M
February 25, 2013

- CDC indicated cluster still above baseline nationally
  - Geographically clustered
  - Frozen products
- LHD re-interviewed case
  - Multi-state outbreak specific questionnaire developed
    - Multiple frozen foods purchased from different stores
Where are we now?

March 2013
- No specific Food

March 12, 2013
- CDC requested permission from states to conduct single person open ended interviews

March 14 and 21, 2013
- State Lab (WC) reported 2 additional PFGE matches
- LHDs granted permission for CDC to interview cases/guardians
What did we find out?

• March 15, 2013
  - CDC completed interview of the March 14th case
    • Case had left over frozen food
      • Brand A mini chicken and cheese quesadillas
      • Brand B chicken patties
  - CDC → BCDC → BCEHFP → Regional Office → LHD EH → WC

• March 25, 2013
  - WC reported Brand A mini chicken and cheese quesadillas were culture positive for STEC O121
Now What?

- March 28\textsuperscript{th} - Recall - April 4\textsuperscript{th} Expanded
- March 21\textsuperscript{st} case interviewed April 10\textsuperscript{TH}
  - Case reported variety of frozen foods from a single grocery store chain – no leftovers
- April 1, 2013
  - 4\textsuperscript{th} PFGE matching case reported in NYS
    - Hospitalized with HUS
    - Exposed to Brand A mini pizza slices
      - Leftovers tested negative
NYS Case Count

• 4 cases
• Age: 14-30 (Median 18)
• Gender
  • Male: 75%
  • Female: 25%
• Onset dates: 1/30/2013 – 3/16/2013
What’s Next?

• Problem Alert
• Enhanced Surveillance
• NYSDA&M searched for products on store shelves
• WC received questions from Federal Partners
  • Additional testing
Thank You

- **Thanks to:**
  - Epidemiology Staff
  - Environmental Health Staff
  - Laboratory Staff
    - State, Local and Federal Agencies

- **Special Thanks to:**
  - NYSDOH BCDC
  - Wadsworth Center