



# Multidrug-Resistant (MDR) *Salmonella* associated with travel to Mexico

The Public Health Agency of Canada is monitoring a number of illnesses of *Salmonella* Newport associated with travel to Mexico that have recently been determined to be multidrug-resistant (MDR). In September the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention issued a travel notice identifying a MDR strain of *Salmonella* Newport associated with travel to Mexico. Many U.S. travelers with MDR *Salmonella* Newport infections reported eating beef, cheese (including queso fresco and Oaxaca), beef jerky, or dried beef (carne seca) before they were ill.

As of November 1, 2022, there are a total of **157 Canadian isolates** (BC=30, AB=31, SK=3, MB=7, ON=56, QC=24, NL=1, NS=4 and NB=1) from December 11, 2018 – September 16, 2022, with **62 of these isolates from 2022**.

Antimicrobial susceptibility testing was completed on all isolates and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) to both azithromycin and ciprofloxacin was observed in 70% of isolates, with most isolates having additional resistance to trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, ampicillin, chloramphenicol, streptomycin and tetracycline. All isolates were susceptible to ceftriaxone.

## Action Requested

Given that Mexico is a common destination for Canadians during the winter months and the concerning resistance profiles detected in this cluster, clinicians are advised to be vigilant; when seeing patients presenting with symptoms compatible with salmonellosis (e.g., diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps) and who have traveled to Mexico in the 7 days before illness onset, consider this strain of MDR *Salmonella* Newport in the differential diagnosis and consider submitting samples for culture and susceptibility testing to guide the choice of therapy if antibiotic treatment is indicated.

## Testing

See PHOL's testing for Enteric - Bacterial Culture at <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Laboratory-Services/Test-Information-Index/Enteric-culture> (or search for "enteric" on the main PHOL website).

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# Reporting

**Salmonellosis is a reportable disease of public health significance** and must be reported to Durham Region Health Department.

Phone: 905-668-2020 or 1-888-777-9613 ext. 7369

Confidential fax: 905-666-1833

After hours: 905-576-9991 or 1-800-372-1104

The Diseases of Public Health Significance List and Notification Form can also be found on the Reportable Diseases [landing page](#) (or [durham.ca/hcp](http://durham.ca/hcp), Forms, Reporting, Diseases of public health significance).

November 16, 2022

905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | [durham.ca/health](http://durham.ca/health)

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

