



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND MENTAL HYGIENE  
Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH  
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Monday, August 21, 2017  
(347) 396-4177

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT ISSUES UPDATE ON MULTISTATE SALMONELLA OUTBREAK ASSOCIATED WITH MARADOL PAPAYAS

**August 21, 2017** – “The Health Department once again urges New Yorkers to avoid eating Maradol papayas, as a national *Salmonella* outbreak associated with eating imported papayas continues. Since we issued our first warning on July 22, there have been 126 additional cases of *Salmonella* infection nationwide associated with this outbreak, including 26 among New York City residents. We remind the public to avoid eating Maradol papayas from Carica de Campeche farm in Mexico to prevent *Salmonella* infection. If you don’t know where the papaya you bought or are about to buy is from, ask the seller. If you can’t confirm its origin, throw it out.”

### Background

- Currently there is a total of 173 cases nationwide.
- Currently there is a total of 36 cases in New York City; one elderly patient has died.
- Last month, the Health Department joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration in alerting the public about a multistate salmonella outbreak associated with Maradol Papayas.
- Cases are associated with eating Maradol papayas.
- Three brands of Maradol papayas have been recalled: Caribeña, Cavi, and Valery brand papayas, which are all varieties from the Carica de Campeche farm located in Campeche, Mexico.
- If you aren’t sure if the papaya you bought is a Maradol papaya from Carica de Campeche farm in Mexico, you can ask the place of purchase. Restaurants and retailers can ask their supplier.
- When in doubt, don’t eat, sell, or serve them and throw them out.
- Wash and sanitize countertops as well as drawers or shelves in refrigerators where papayas were stored.
- Most people infected with *Salmonella* develop the following signs and symptoms 12-72 hours after being exposed to the bacteria: diarrhea, fever, abdominal cramp.
- The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days, and most people recover without treatment.
- In some people, the diarrhea may be so severe that the patient needs to be hospitalized.
- In rare cases, *Salmonella* infection can cause death unless the person is treated promptly with antibiotics.

###

**MEDIA CONTACT: (347) 396-4177**  
[PressOffice@health.nyc.gov](mailto:PressOffice@health.nyc.gov)