

Serial number: 2026/026

Date: 17 August 2026

Event: UPDATE - National outbreak of *Salmonella* Enteritidis (t5.9411) in the UK

Notified by: Gastrointestinal Infections, Food Safety and One Health Division (GIFSOH), UK Health Security Agency

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Incident Response Plan (IRP) Level Standard incident

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Distribution: Please see page 03 for information with regards to the distribution instructions for this Briefing Note.

Summary:

The Gastrointestinal Infections, Food Safety and One Health Division (GIFSOH), alongside public health agencies of Devolved Administrations, Food Safety Authorities and the Animal & Plant Health Agency, are investigating an outbreak of *Salmonella* Enteritidis. This is a situational update to the UKHSA briefing note circulated on 15th June 2026.

As of 13th August 2026 (10:00), 207 confirmed cases of *S. Enteritidis* t5.9411 have been reported across the UK, including in England (n=199), Scotland (n=6), Wales (n=1) and Northern Ireland (n=1). All confirmed cases were linked through routine surveillance as genetically related through Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) at the 5-SNP single linkage clustering level (5-SNP address designation: 1.2.3.18.5849.9411.%).

Sample dates range from 11th August 2025 and 1st August 2026, with a notable increase in April and May 2026, followed by a larger rise in July 2026. Cases range in age from 0 to 90 years (median 30 years) and 51% (n=105) are female.

Cases in England are distributed across all 9 regions, with highest case numbers in London (n=47) and Yorkshire & Humber (n=38).

Of cases with available information, 34 (38%) were admitted to hospital and two cases reported bloody diarrhoea. One death has been associated with this outbreak. Seven cases reported international travel during their incubation period; two cases to Spain, one case to Poland, one case to Czech Republic, one case to Egypt; the destinations for the remaining two cases are unknown.

Background and Interpretation:

S. Enteritidis is the most common serovar in the UK and has been associated with outbreaks linked to a variety of vehicles, included poultry and eggs. To date, 114 cases have been interviewed and have a completed regional questionnaire or an outbreak questionnaire. Of those cases with a completed questionnaire, 95 (83%) report eating food prepared outside of the home in the week prior to symptom onset. Case interviews identified 5 food businesses where two or more independent cases reported attending in the week prior to symptom onset. These food businesses link 24 cases in total. Eleven of these cases report eating dishes made with eggs. The signal for egg consumption remains the strongest in this investigation to date. Food chain investigations to date have identified that these premises are supplied by eggs from multiple sources, including egg importers. Local investigations have also identified possible cross-contamination risk events within two of these settings. At this time there is no identified link to UK-produced eggs or poultry.

Any other queries relating to this incident should be directed to Incident069.NRC@ukhsa.gov.uk

Implications and Recommendations for UKHSA Regions:

GIFSOH, Field Service, Health Protection Team and Rapid Investigation Team colleagues are undertaking targeted questionnaires for cases in this cluster.

A national CIMS context has been created for this incident (**201426860**). Please link all cases in this cluster to this incident context. Any regional situations arising from identified food premises should also be linked to **201426860**.

Any questions or concerns relating to questionnaires or wider epidemiology of the incident should be directed to Incident069.DEA@ukhsa.gov.uk.

HPTs are asked to share this briefing note with Directors of Public Health and Environmental Health Teams.

Further information on *Salmonella* can be found on the NHS website ([Diarrhoea and vomiting - NHS](#)) and UKHSA website ([Salmonella: guidance, data and analysis - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#))

Implications and Recommendations for UKHSA sites and services:

UKHSA sites and services should continue to report *Salmonella* results (including all serovars and subspecies) for national surveillance following normal procedures and should promptly refer samples to the Gastrointestinal Bacteria Reference Unit (GBRU) for confirmation and further characterisation (through WGS) as detailed below.

The UKHSA Food, Water & Environmental Microbiology Services (FWEMS) may be asked to examine food and environmental samples taken as part of the outbreak investigation.

Implications and recommendations for Local Authorities:

Where food businesses based in England are identified through this national investigation, the Incidents Team at FSA England will liaise with local authority environmental health teams to gather the required information. Local authority environmental health teams may be asked to support product tracing or undertake sampling and testing in conjunction with UKHSA's FWEMS.

Where local investigations of food businesses based in England identify hygiene concerns relevant to this national investigation, local authority environmental health colleagues should contact the Incidents Team at FSA England at fsa.incidents@food.gov.uk, quoting reference I-26-0860. This will ensure that the information is directed to the appropriate colleagues.

Details of any food businesses identified outside of England should be sent, quoting reference I-26-0860, to the relevant team: FSA Wales, FSA Northern Ireland or Food Standards Scotland, who will undertake investigations for Welsh, NI and Scottish-based food businesses. (FSA.IncidentsWales@food.gov.uk; FSA.IncidentsNI@food.gov.uk, Incidents@fss.scot). The relevant authority will coordinate investigations within its jurisdiction.

Instructions for Cascade:

This briefing note is intended to be cascaded to the following stakeholders:

- UKHSA Private Office Groups who cascade onwards within Groups
 - UKHSA Health Protection in Regions:
 - UKHSA Field Services
 - UKHSA Health Protection Teams including UKHSA Regional Deputy Directors
 - Deputy Directors in Regions Directorate
 - UKHSA Lab Management Teams
 - UKHSA Regional Communications
 - Generic inbox for each of the Devolved Administrations
 - Inboxes for each of the Crown Dependencies
 - UKHSA UKOT Programme SPOC
 - DHSC CMO
 - OHID Regional Directors of Public Health
 - National NHSE Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response (EPRR)
 - NHSE National Operations Centre
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- **Regional Deputy Directors** to cascade to Directors of Public Health and Local Authority Environmental Health teams
 - **UKHSA microbiologists** to cascade to non-UKHSA labs (NHS labs and private)
 - **UKHSA microbiologists** to cascade to NHS Trust infection leads