

# THIS IS AN OFFICIAL NH DHHS HEALTH ALERT

Distributed by the NH Health Alert Network  
[DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov)  
March 14, 2025, Time 1100 (11:00 AM EDT)  
NH-HAN 202503141



## Possible Listeria Exposure Through Raw Milk Sold in NH

### Key Points and Recommendations:

- Raw milk potentially contaminated with Listeria was sold from Brookvale Farm and the Brookvale Mercantile retail store located in Brentwood, NH.
  - Raw milk was sold from a dairy cow that developed neurologic illness, was euthanized, and subsequently tested positive for *Listeria monocytogenes*.
  - Raw milk from this farm was last available for purchase on March 12, 2025.
- Listeria exposure usually occurs through contaminated food and can cause a self-limited gastroenteritis that does not require diagnostic testing or antibiotic treatment in most people. However, some persons are at higher risk for invasive disease including older adults, immunocompromised persons, and pregnant women and their newborns.
- Consider Listeria infection in any patient presenting with signs or symptoms of invasive disease (e.g., bacteremia, meningitis, meningoencephalitis) and who may have consumed raw milk:
  - Initiate appropriate diagnostic work-up (e.g., blood cultures, cerebrospinal fluid analysis and culture) as indicated by the clinical presentation.
  - Consider empiric antibiotic therapy for Listeria.
- Review CDC's guidance on [Caring for Patients with Listeriosis](#), including recommendations for management of persons who may be exposed but who are asymptomatic or only have mild symptoms.
  - Follow the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists guidance on [Management of Pregnant Women with Presumptive Exposure to \*Listeria monocytogenes\*](#).
- Report any patient with Listeriosis to the NH Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) at 603-271-4496 (after hours call 603-271-5300 and request the Public Health Nurse on-call).

### Background Information

*Listeria monocytogenes* is a facultatively anaerobic, gram-positive rod bacterium that is widespread in the environment and can be found in soil, water, and decaying vegetation. Humans are exposed through contaminated food, and the risk of invasive disease is low in most people with a normal immune system. However, older adults and people with immunocompromising conditions are at higher risk for invasive infection such as bacteremia, sepsis, and meningitis or meningoencephalitis. Infection during pregnancy can

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also cause *in utero* fetal infection that can result in miscarriage, stillbirth, preterm labor, and sepsis or meningitis in the neonate. Invasive disease usually occurs within 2-4 weeks after an exposure but can be as long as 90 days. Listeria can also cause a self-limited febrile gastroenteritis that is not detected on routine stool culture and does not require specific antibacterial treatment. Symptoms of a self-limited gastroenteritis may start within 24 hours after consuming contaminated food and last 1-3 days.

**For additional information:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/listeria/hcp/clinical-overview/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/listeria/hcp/clinical-care/index.html>

- For any questions regarding this notification, please call the NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at (603) 271-4496 during business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.).
- If you are calling after hours or on the weekend, please call the New Hampshire Hospital switchboard at (603) 271-5300 and request the Public Health Professional on-call.
- To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, please send an email to [DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov) or visit [www.nhhan.org](http://www.nhhan.org).

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**Attachments:** None