



WHAT IS SALMONELLA?

Salmonella is the second most common domestic foodborne illness. Approximately 42,000 confirmed cases are reported every year, but by scientific estimates (which include unreported infections), the number of actual infections reaches more than one million. Infections result in roughly 20,000 hospitalizations and 400 deaths per year.



HOW IS SALMONELLA CONTRACTED?

Salmonella bacteria are found in the intestines of humans and animals alike. Infection generally arises from ingesting foods contaminated with animal feces, but can also be contracted from food handlers who fail to adequately wash their hands after restroom use.



RECOVERY AND LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Most infected individuals recover without any treatment, but it could be months before a person's bowels fully stabilize. Hospitalization can result from dehydration caused by the symptoms but, in some cases, seeking immediate medical attention may be a matter of life or death. Salmonella food poisoning infection can sometimes spread from the intestines to the blood stream, carrying it to other areas of the body. In such a case, infection can pose a significant risk of death, unless the infected person is quickly treated with antibiotics.



SYMPTOMS

Diarrhea, fever, abdominal cramps, vomiting



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