

***Campylobacter jejuni* Infections Associated with Raw Milk Served at a Farm**

June-July

Benton County

Routine surveillance interviews of two cases of *Campylobacter jejuni* infection conducted by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) in late July 2011 revealed that both cases had consumed raw milk at a farm near Sauk Rapids in the week prior to illness onset.

All *Campylobacter* cases reported to MDH are interviewed about food consumption and other exposures as part of foodborne disease surveillance in Minnesota. Epidemiologists reviewed the information gathered during the interviews of *C. jejuni* cases to identify potential cases associated with raw milk obtained at the Sauk Rapids farm.

Two cases were identified. Repeat interviews with both cases confirmed that they had consumed raw milk from the same private farm in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota in the week prior to illness onset. Reported consumption dates for the two cases were approximately June 27 and July 6-8, respectively. One case reported being a visiting relative of the farmer, while the other case was a friend. While both cases were present on the dairy farm, neither reported contact with the cows.

Both cases were males, aged 10 and 13 years. Both cases reported diarrhea and vomiting. One (50%) case reported cramps, one (50%) reported fever, and one (50%) reported bloody stools. Incubation periods could not be calculated because one of the cases consumed raw milk on multiple days and the other case was unsure of the specific consumption date. Cases had illness durations of 5 and 6 days, respectively. Both cases had a stool specimen test positive for *Campylobacter jejuni*; both isolates were indistinguishable by pulsed-field gel electrophoresis.

This was an outbreak of campylobacteriosis associated with raw milk consumption at a private farm. Raw milk is a well-established vehicle of campylobacteriosis.