

## **Guidelines for *Salmonella* ser. Braenderup Questionnaire**

Thank you again for your assistance in the investigation of the multi-state *Salmonella* Braenderup outbreak. This will be a population-based unmatched case-control study. Please use the following guidelines to determine who to interview and how to fill out the questionnaire, to make the data collection as consistent and comprehensive as possible.

### *Cases*

**The case definition is: Culture-confirmed *Salmonella* Braenderup that has been PFGE matched or is pending PFGE matching in a person between the age of 15 and 60, with date of onset after June 15, 2004.**

**A suspected case is: Any person between the age of 15 and 60 with a diarrheal illness (defined as 3 or more loose stools within a 24 hour period) with date of onset after June 15, 2004, who is epidemiologically linked to a case.**

### *Controls*

At this time we are only using population-based controls between the ages of 15 and 60. In the future, we may change the investigation to include restaurant based controls, and other age groups. Our goal at this time is to see if there is an association with food eaten inside or outside of the house, and with specific food items.

**A control: An English speaking person who DID NOT become ill with vomiting or diarrhea after June 15, 2004 and is between the age of 15 and 60, and resides in the same area code as the case.**

Our goal is to enroll two controls per case. Potential controls should be enrolled through random digit dialing. For random digit dialing, sequentially add '2' to the last digit of the case's phone number (for example, if the case's telephone number is 123-456-7890, then start with 123-456-7892, 123-456-7894, 123-456-7896, etc). Please keep a log of the number of attempted calls for each control enrolled.

## **FILLING OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE**

Please fill out every question on the questionnaire, i.e. do not leave any questions blank except in skipped sections, even if the answers seem self-explanatory. These instructions are written for the Case questionnaire, but the same guidelines can generally be followed for the Control questionnaire.

Before beginning the questionnaire, write the available identifying information in the first part of the questionnaire. Also, please add the patient ID number to the first page of both the case and control questionnaire.

For Control questionnaires, fill out the Case name and onset date before beginning the questionnaire.

Section 1 asks for clinical information. The date of onset is very important and should simply correspond to the case's subjective feeling of starting to feel ill as opposed to any specific symptom.

Section 2 asks two questions. Note that cases will have an opportunity, in Section 4, to describe food items consumed at any gatherings or catered events.

Section 3 then asks the person to specify any context in which they may have consumed food prepared outside of the house during the 5 days preceding onset of illness. Please write down as specifically as possible the location of each food establishment, e.g. address, identifying landmarks, etc.

For Section 4, multiple copies will likely be necessary for each person interviewed, and one copy should be completed for each food establishment mentioned in Section 3. Please staple these completed extra copies of Section 4 to the corresponding questionnaire.

Section 5 contains similar questions to Section 4 but only needs to be completed once. Section 6 contains some further demographic questions.

ID numbers will be assigned at the time of data entry. Please leave this line blank, but ALWAYS include the case name on EACH page of both the case and control questionnaires, as well as interviewer name and interview date and try to keep these forms together. Personally identifying information, such as names and telephone numbers, will not be entered into the database.

If there are questions about the survey, please contact Sundeep Gupta:

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Thank you to everyone.