



To: Emergency Medical Alert Network (EMAN) Participants  
Date: August 9, 2007

### ***Vibrio parahaemolyticus* Associated with Consumption of Raw Shellfish**

Three confirmed cases of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* with onset dates ranging between 7/15 and 7/27 have been reported to San Diego County Health and Human Services. All three cases reported consuming raw oysters within 24 hours prior to their onset of illness. The County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health investigation indicates that oysters harvested from the southern part of the Hood Canal in Washington State may be linked to these cases. Shellfish contaminations may be more common when bacterial concentrations increase in warmer temperatures.

*Vibrio parahaemolyticus* can cause symptoms such as watery diarrhea, often with abdominal cramping, nausea, vomiting and fever, typically lasting three days. Severe disease is rare but may occur in individuals with weakened immune systems.

Health care providers are encouraged to perform stool testing in patients with symptoms compatible with *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* infections. Confirmed cases of *Vibrio*, as well as other reportable enteric illnesses, should be reported to the Community Epidemiology Branch.

For more information about *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, please visit the CDC website at:  
[http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/vibrioparahaemolyticus\\_g.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/vibrioparahaemolyticus_g.htm)

Thank you for your continued participation.

### **Emergency Medical Alert Network (EMAN)**

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*EMAN Alerts are intended for the use of public health, medical and laboratory professionals in San Diego County, should be considered confidential and **NOT BE DISTRIBUTED** further. An online EMAN application is available at the EMAN website ([www.emansandiego.com](http://www.emansandiego.com)) for appropriate and interested individuals. If you are not an approved EMAN subscriber and have received this communication in error, please reply to this message immediately and then delete it.*