



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962
(831) 454-4000 FAX: (831) 454-4488 TDD: Call 711

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

Escherichia coli (E.coli) 0157 with Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)

To:	All Healthcare Providers
From:	Arnold Leff, MD, Interim Health Officer County of Santa Cruz
Date:	July 21, 2016
Subject:	Escherichia coli (E.coli) 0157 with Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)

INFORMATION

A cluster of E.coli 0157 with HUS potentially associated with a daycare in south Santa Cruz County has been reported to the Santa Cruz County Communicable Disease Unit. Two cases were both under the age of 5 years and are currently hospitalized for HUS. Onset of illness began at the end of June. There was delay in diagnosis. Symptoms of E.coli include diarrhea (often bloody), abdominal cramps and may be complicated by HUS as in these two cases.

General signs and symptoms of HUS are characterized by the acute onset of microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, renal injury, and low platelet count.

For more information about E. coli 0157:

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/EscherichiacoliO157H7.aspx>

Santa Cruz County health care providers are requested to do the following:

1. Be alert for cases of E.coli 0157, especially in children under 5 and the elderly.
2. Collect stool culture specimens on suspect patients in order to confirm E.coli 0157.
3. Immediately report suspect and confirmed cases to the Communicable Disease Unit (phone: at (831) 454-4114; fax: (831) 454-5049 (Mon-Fri 8-5) or after hours at (831) 471-1170 and ask for the Health Officer on call. Forms and Instructions for reporting are available at: www.SantaCruzHealth.org/CDUnit

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.