

***Listeria monocytogenes*/Deli Sandwich (suspect)/April 2025 - CARA ID 1305**

On 04/14/2025, CORE Signals was notified by the FDA Human Foods Program Office of Surveillance Strategy and Risk Prioritization (OSSRP) Signal Detection and Bioinformatics Branch (SDBB) of two 2025 environmental samples and a recent 2025 clinical isolate of the same strain of *Listeria monocytogenes*. Samples were collected by FDA Office of Inspections and Investigations (OII) Office of Human Food Inspectorate West 1 (OHFI)/LOS-DO from Fresh & Ready Foods LLC (San Fernando, CA). FDA OII OHFI W1 (LOS-DO) initiated an inspection and sample collection at Fresh & Ready Foods LLC (San Fernando, CA; FEI: 3003328123) on 03/31/2025. FDA's PC inspection closed on 04/15/2025 with issuance of an FDA Form 483. The two environmental samples and recent 2025 clinical isolate were genetically related to historical 2024 outbreak clinical isolates. At closing, the outbreak included 10 ill people from California (8) and Nevada (2). Specimen collection dates ranged from 12/03/2023 to 09/09/2024. Ill people ranged in age from 41-87 years (median: 60); nine (90%) were male. All 10 people were hospitalized, and one death was attributed to listeriosis. FDA conducted a limited distribution analysis for three cases with available exposure information. All cases with available exposure information were hospitalized prior to their illness onset. Fresh & Ready Foods LLC (San Fernando, CA) supplied ready-to-eat (RTE) Deli sandwiches to three hospitals where cases were admitted. Based on the combined epidemiologic and traceability data, RTE sandwiches from Fresh & Ready Foods LLC were commonly served among cases with available information. However, meal dates were undetermined. Fresh & Ready Foods LLC (San Fernando, CA; FEI: 3003328123) issued a voluntary recall of RTE sandwiches and snacks which included FDA-regulated products sold in AZ, CA, NV, and WA for possible *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination. The voluntary recall was specified to products with Use By dates from 04/22/2025 to 05/19/2025. Although environmental samples and a 2025 clinical isolate were genetically related to the outbreak strain, there was no sufficient epidemiologic and traceback evidence to confirm the outbreak vehicle. There were no indicators to formulate a hypothesis as to the source or route of contamination for this outbreak. Therefore, deli sandwich remained the suspect vehicle.