Onset of Illness

Apr 16th

4/16 Across town, after eating burgers from Burger Chain A, individuals complain of nausea, muscle cramps, racing heartbeat, dizziness, and sweating; individuals are taken to emergency room at Metropolitan General.

4/16 Special Care Hospital's emergency room, in Mosaic City, in State A, had high percentage of the patients complaining of tremors, muscle cramps, neck pain, nausea and heart palpitations.

Apr 17th

4/17 Local health departments in several counties in this state and local jurisdictions in three surrounding states began getting calls from physicians and emergency room staff about an influx of individuals with similar acute symptoms.

4/17 The Mosaic City Health Department, after receiving the two calls with potentially related disease syndromes, engage their health officer, have a quick planning conference call with the county epidemiologists.

4/18 Mosaic City epidemiologists investigate Carlos' Poker Party; leftover burgers and a sample of the beer are collected for the State Public Health Laboratory for analysis.

City epidemiology staff also interviews some of the people from the Special Care Hospital and ask about their food history shortly before the onset of symptoms.

Most report eating at Burger Chain A.

4/19 The local health authorities report these events to the State A Health Department and a call was held, where the Mosaic City health officials reported the possible link to the Burger Chain A.

CDC is notified by State A. CDC contacts the Poison Control centers, other states, FDA and FSIS.

Apr 20th

4/20 CDC call with all parties. Three other states in the area have similar cases. State A reported a high rate of Superburger exposure from Burger Chain A in its cases.

Other states and local jurisdictions with cases immediately begin to query their cases about Burger Chain A exposure.

Sanitarians from Mosaic City contact Burger Chain A about the possible association with their restaurants.

Apr 21st

4/21 Several jurisdictions report to the CDC that many of their cases also had Burger Chain A exposure at various individual establishments.

4/21 FDA and FSIS and the State environmental health sanitarians review supplier records to Burger Chain A to begin a traceback; reveals that the Burger Chain A units all received lettuce from a common supplier and ground beef patties processed by ABC Meat Processing, in Mosaic City.

Apr 22nd

Apr 23rd-28th

4/23-28 A joint information center is set up to coordinate media inquiries. State A issues press release. FBI approves of CDC and FSIS posting health information on web.Includes advice to consumers and retail/foodservice.

Destruction and disposal of all recalled ground beef occurs.

Firm does special cleaning and sanitizing of processing environment to remove all traces of Clenbuterol.