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Salmonellosis outbreak, South Australia

In late February the Communicable Disease Control Branch, South Australia was notified of an unusual number of cases of gastroenteritis. This was later determined to be caused by *Salmonella* Typhimurium phage type 135a. A case control study conducted on 6 and 7 March implicated a brand of commercially packaged fresh unpasteurised orange juice. On 8 March a bacteria presumptively identified as a *Salmonella* was isolated from a sample of the suspect brand purchased unopened from a retailer. A product recall was issued that day. On 10 March the presumptive *Salmonella* isolated from the juice 2 days previous was definitively identified as *S. Typhimurium* PT135a. As at 23 March, 405 cases of infection with this *Salmonella* had been laboratory confirmed and investigations are continuing into the source of the contamination of the orange juice. Although this product may be distributed to States other than South Australia there are, as yet, no reports of this unusual phage type causing recent infections in humans elsewhere in Australia.