

# Investigation of a Multi-year *Salmonella*Enteritidis Outbreak Discovered by Whole Genome Sequencing

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#### **About Tennessee**

- Population: 6.5 million
- Tennessee Department of Health (TDH)
  - 7 Rural Health Departments
  - 6 Metropolitan Health Departments
  - 2 State Public Health Laboratories
  - 1 County Public Health Laboratory

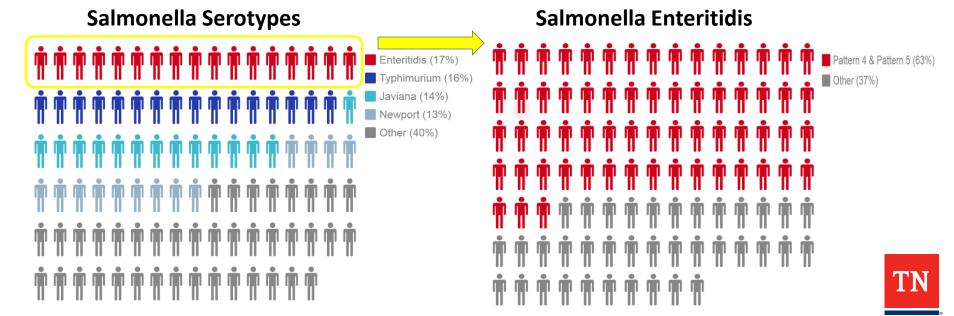




#### Salmonella in Tennessee

- ~1,000 cases of Salmonella identified annually in TN
- 2,500 Serotypes of Salmonella determined by PFGE

- 17% of isolates Salmonella Enteritidis (SE)
- Most common Salmonella Enteritidis PFGE Patterns: JEGX01.0004 and JEGX01.0005
- 1 out of every 10 cases = SE Pattern 4 or 5



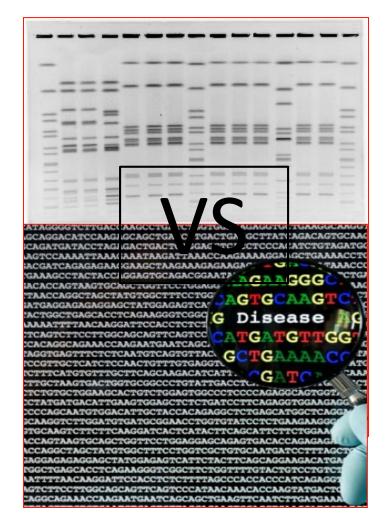
## Whole Genome Sequencing in TN

Began December 2014

PFGE: 15-30 Bands

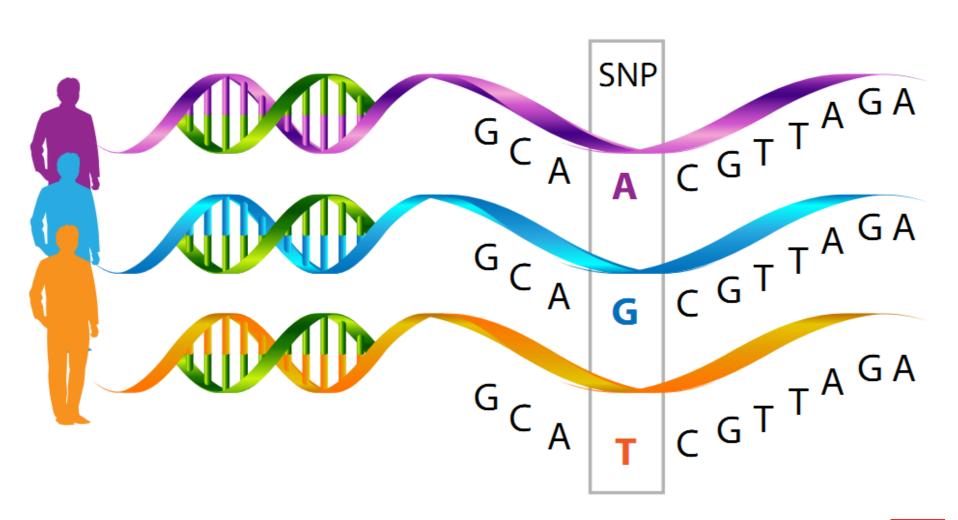


 WGS: A unique DNA sequence composed of millions of bases (A,T,C,G)





## Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP)





#### **WGS Process**



#### **Organisms:**

#### **Real Time**

- Listeria
- *STEC* O157
- *STEC* Non-O157
- Salmonella
- Gonorrhea
- Campylobacter
- Shigella

# **Upon Request & Special Projects**

- Salmonella
- Campylobacter
- Hepatitis C

#### **Future Activities**

- ARLN
  - CRE



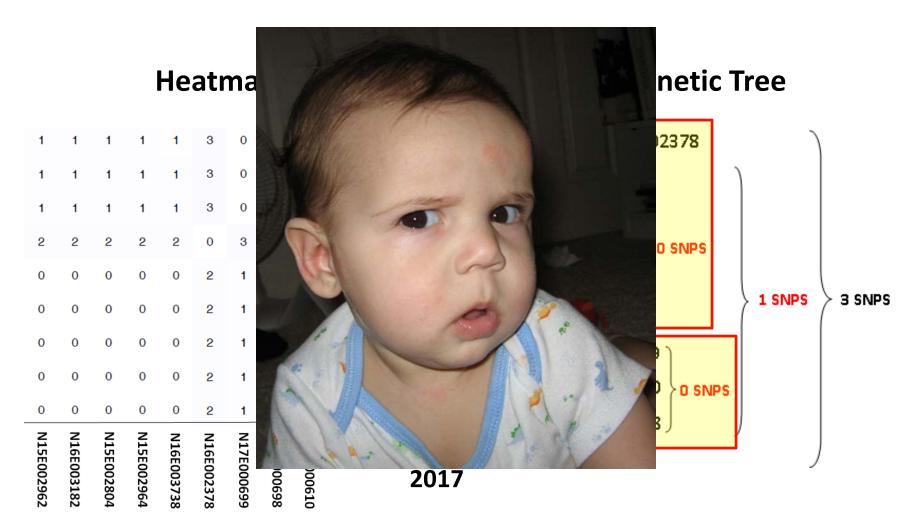
#### **Outbreak Detection**

- March 8, 2017 TDH identified an increase of Salmonella Enteriditis (SE) Pattern JEGX01.0004 isolates on the weekly PFGE cluster report
- March 31, 2017 WGS results available

PFGE Salmonella Cluster Report — March 8, 2017												
		SPHL#	PFGE- Xba1 Pattern #	<u>Serotype</u>	County	Collection Date	Recv'd Date	<u>Age</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Outbreak</u>	Investigate
		N17E000377	JEGX01:0004	Enteritidis	Loudon	2017-01-16	2017-02-01	82	FEMALE	Blood		
		N17E000440	JEGX01:0004	Enteritidis	Williamson	2017-01-27	2017-02-07	10	MALE	Stool		
11 11	1 1 1 1 1 1 1	N17E000455	JEGX01:0004	Enteritidis	Shelby	2017-01-26	2017-02-07	75	MALE	Stool		
		N17E000456	JEGX01.0004	Enteritidis	Shelby	2017-01-23	2017-02-07	- 66	MALE	Serum		
1.1		N17E000458	JEGX01.0004	Enteritidis	Shelby	2017-01-21	2017-02-07	78	MALE	Serum		
		N17E000610	JEGX01.0004	Enteritidis	Shelby	2017-02-10	2017-02-22	35	FEMALE	Stool >		
		N17E000698		Serotype pending	Shelby	2017-02-10	2017-03-02	58	FEMALE	Stool >	O SNP:	s
		N17E000699		Serotype pending	Shelby	2017-02-13	2017-03-03	23	FEMALE	Stool		
		N17E000457	JEGX01.0021	Enteritidis	Shelby	2017-01-28	2017-02-07	45	MALE	Stool		
11 11	1 1 1 1 1 1	N17E000513	JEGX01.0021	Enteritidis	Shelby	2017-01-14	2017-02-10	0-4	MALE	Tissue		
1111	111111	N17E000580	JEGX01.0005	Typhimurium	Rutherford	2017-02-09	2017-02-16	-1	MALE	Stool		
		N17E000238	JEGX01:0004	Enteritidis	Hamilton	2017-01-05	2017-01-24	57	MALE	Stool		



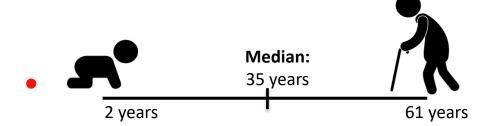
#### WGS Analysis: Heatmap and Phylogenetic Tree





## **Epidemiologic Investigation**

- 9 confirmed SE cases
  - 0-3 SNPs difference
- Collection dates: October 15, 2015 to February 13, 2017

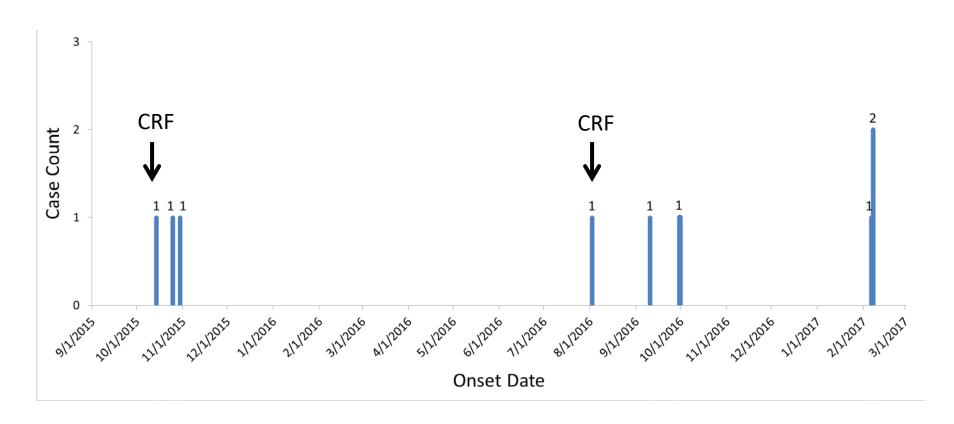


- 89% Female
- All cases resided in or visited Shelby County, TN



## **Epidemic Curve**

#### **Cases of Salmonella Enteritidis by Date of Onset**





#### To interview or not to interview?

- Exposure data collected from completed Salmonella Case Report Forms (CRFs)
  - Only 2 CRFs available (1 2015, 1 2016)
- Interview 2017 cases?
  - Interviews conducted with 3 most recent 2017 cases (NHGQ)
- Interview 2015 and 2016 cases?
- Common Exposures (>50%)
  - Grocery Store K
  - Chicken, Seafood, Pineapple, HATE tomatoes
  - Dogs
  - 6/9 ate at Restaurant A
    - 7<sup>th</sup> case had catered meals delivered to office



## Causes of Long Term Outbreaks

- III food worker
- Contaminated source
- Processes and practices
  - Using raw/undercooked ingredients
  - Cross-contamination by hands or utensils
  - Improper cleaning and sanitation



## **Environmental Health Investigation**

- Local region contacted
- Recommendations
  - Restaurant assessment
  - Environmental swabbing
  - Stool collection of restaurant workers
- May 9, 2017 Region met with the restaurant
  - Locally sourced items
    - Beef
    - Seafood
    - Eggs

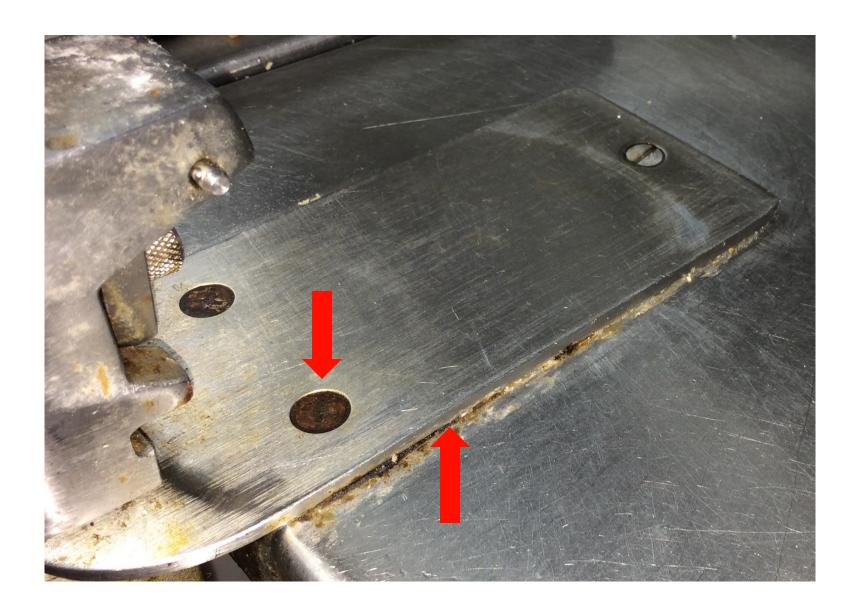


# **Preparation Table Maintenance**





# **Equipment Design**





## **Equipment cleaning and sanitization**





## **Environmental Findings**

- Equipment
  - Inadequate preparation space
  - Facility design opportunities
- Processes
  - Cross-contamination
  - Inadequate sanitization
- People
  - Inadequate training
  - Lack of management oversight
- May 12, 2017 Environmental swabbing performed
  - All swabs negative



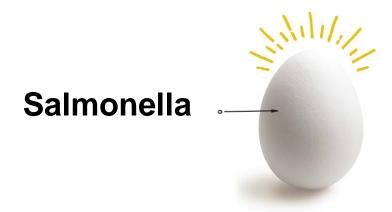






## **An Egg-cellent Source of Illness**

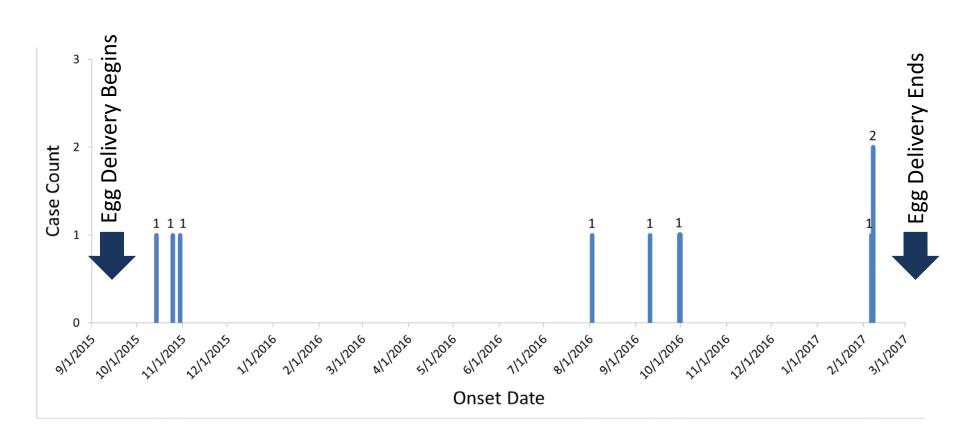
- Salmonella Enteritidis historically linked to eggs
- 2015 Nationwide eggs shortage due to Avian influenza outbreak
- Restaurant A changed their eggs source from a commercial producer to local Farm W
- Farm W stopped delivering eggs to all restaurants in April 2017





## **Epidemic Curve with Egg Delivery Schedule**

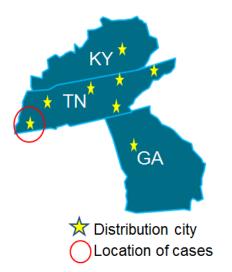
#### **Cases of Salmonella by Date of Onset**





## **Investigation of Farm W**

- May 15, 2017 Tennessee Department of Agriculture and FDA visited Farm W
  - Farm W has no laying hens
  - All eggs sourced from Farm K in Kentucky
  - Eggs are distributed to multiple locations in TN and GA
- May 19, 2017 FDA visited Farm K
  - 1500 Laying hens = Below regulatory limits of the egg rule
- Why are cases only in one TN county?





#### Successes

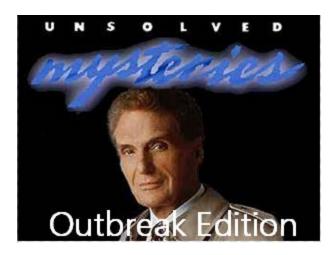
- WGS is powerful
  - Differentiation between sporadic vs linked cases
  - Identification of meaningful long-term cluster
  - Process improvements: communication, analysis, and interpretation
- Successful case interviews
- Single restaurant identified
  - Food safety deficiencies addressed
- No additional cases





#### Considerations

- Extend cluster definitions?
- Unable to confirm eggs as true source of illness





#### Acknowledgements

- Tennessee Department of Health
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- Colorado Department of Health
- CDC PulseNet WGS Analysis Team
- Tennessee Department of Agriculture / FDA



## **Questions?**



