



City of New Bedford  
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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

### Mass Department of Public Health Identifies Cluster of Salmonella Illnesses

**New Bedford, Massachusetts** –The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) has notified the local New Bedford Board of Health of several cases of food borne illness linked to food recently served by the Churrascaria Aveirense Restaurant located at 175 Sawyer Street in New Bedford. The New Bedford Board of Health has asked the restaurant owners to close the establishment until further notice. The Board of Health will not permit the restaurant to reopen until all employees have tested negative for the bacteria and the restaurant has met all food safety requirements.

MADPH has informed the local board of health that several persons have tested positive for the bacteria known as *Salmonella*. Most persons infected with *Salmonella* develop diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days, and most persons recover without treatment. If you or someone you know is experiencing these symptoms, you should contact your primary health care provider.

The New Bedford Board of Health follows up on all reported cases of food borne illness within the City and works in tandem with the MDPH to determine the source. They also inspect local food establishments to ensure compliance with relevant food safety requirements.

The local Board of Health has issued an informational fact sheet on *Salmonella* <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/cdc/factsheets/salmonella.pdf> and can be reached at 508-991-6199.

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