

PORK SAFETY

Title: The Role of Pork as a Vehicle for Confirmed Foodborne Disease Outbreaks in the United States, 1990-1997 **NPB# 02-145**

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Abstract: Outbreaks of confirmed foodborne disease in the United States reported to CDC from 1990-1997 were reviewed to evaluate the role of pork in causing outbreaks and to identify strategies for prevention. Sixty-four (4%) of 1,692 outbreaks with a known etiology were due to pork or pork-containing foods. Raw or undercooked pork appeared to be the source for most outbreaks in which the pork product was implicated as a primary vehicle. However, in many outbreaks involving pork as an ingredient in the implicated food, the pork may not have been the source of contamination. Primary prevention of foodborne outbreaks due to pork will require further pathogen reduction on raw pork and improved foodhandling practices in commercial establishments and private homes.

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