# Food-Borne Event Exercise Scenario

On November18, 2013, health care providers at community health centers, private physician’s offices and local emergency departments began seeing previously healthy patients with complaints of abdominal pain throughout (Organizations/Jurisdiction can fill in location) County.

On November 19, multiple patients with bloody diarrhea and abdominal pain were reported at **(**Organizations/ Jurisdictions can fill in number) hospitals in the county. On November 20, the **(**Organizations/ Jurisdictions) healthcare system (including skilled nursing facilities) reported a 40-45% increase in patients seeking treatment for abdominal pain and bloody diarrhea. Of those patients, 10% were admitted to Intensive Care with symptoms of renal failure leading to hemolytic uremic syndrome. Additional cases continue to be reported throughout the county.

Laboratory staff in the county has requested guidance from the local health department on appropriate protocols for specimen collection and laboratory techniques to confirm the diagnosis. Infection preventionists at local health care facilities are requesting guidance on necessary levels of isolation and personal protective equipment requirements for staff. Ambulance companies are reporting an increase in call volume and extended delays in offloading patients at local emergency departments. Hospitals are experiencing continuing surge with increasing wait times.

The initial epidemiologic investigation has not revealed a consistent pattern of age race, occupation, geographic distribution or previous symptomatology among patients which might indicate a source of the offending agent.