

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2015



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SHIGELLA NEWS UPDATE

Santa Clara County, CA: The number of cases of shigella reported to Santa Clara County Public Health Department (SCCPHD) now stands at 93. Of these, 24 are lab confirmed. The majority of the patients who were being cared for in the ICU have improved and have been discharged or moved to other units in the hospital. SCCPHD is still receiving reports of cases from healthcare providers.

SCCPHD is focused on the outbreak investigation: counting and following up on reported cases. At this point in the investigation, secondary infections are also being reported but we do not have an exact number at this time.

Disease investigators are interviewing and testing all food handlers (cooks, servers, etc.) at the restaurant. The owner and employees of Mariscos San Juan #3 are cooperating with the investigation. Public Health is also following up on all reported cases of illness.

Additionally, healthcare providers in the region have been notified to suspect shigella in ill persons with symptoms if they, or someone they are in contact with, ate at Mariscos on Friday October 16th or Saturday October 17th.

We want the public to know that Shigella is extremely contagious. People with diarrhea – even mild - must not work, especially food service workers, healthcare providers, and childcare workers. Proper and frequent hand washing is very important in preventing continued spread.

Mariscos San Juan #3 remains closed at this time and our investigation is ongoing.

SCCPHD will have another update Thursday, October 22, 10:00 a.m. at 976 Lenzen Ave in San Jose.

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