

# What is Salmonellosis?

**Salmonellosis is an infection caused by Salmonella bacteria.** Most people infected with Salmonella develop diarrhea, fever, vomiting, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days, and most persons recover without treatment.

*Salmonellosis is spread by eating contaminated foods, drinking contaminated water, or having hand-to-mouth contact with the stool (feces) of an infected person or animal.*

## References

Texas Department of State Health Services

Center for Disease Control

Link

Mayo Clinic

## Causes

The root cause of Salmonellosis is the Salmonella bacteria. Victims are typically infected by eating foods that have been contaminated by feces.

[View details »](#)

## Symptoms

Unfortunately it is often difficult to tell if someone has Salmonellosis due to the fact that most of its symptoms occur within the body, but some major signs are: nausea, fever, diarrhea, and body pains.

[View details »](#)

## Treatments

Because salmonella infection can be dehydrating, treatment focuses on replacing fluids and electrolytes. Severe cases may require hospitalization and fluids delivered directly into a vein.

[View details »](#)



## Causes of Salmonellosis

The root cause of Salmonellosis is the Salmonella bacteria. Victims are typically infected by eating foods that have been contaminated by feces.

### Commonly contaminated foods include:

- **Raw meat, poultry and seafood.** Feces may get onto raw meat and poultry during the butchering process. Seafood may be contaminated if harvested from contaminated water.
- **Raw eggs.** While an egg's shell may seem to be a perfect barrier to contamination, some infected chickens produce eggs that contain salmonella before the shell is even formed. Raw eggs are used in homemade versions of mayonnaise and hollandaise sauce.
- **Fruits and vegetables.** Some fresh produce, particularly imported varieties, may be hydrated in the field or washed during processing with water contaminated with salmonella. Contamination also can occur in the kitchen, when juices from raw meat and poultry come into contact with uncooked foods, such as salads.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration also indicates that some salmonella outbreaks have been traced to contaminants in spices. The agency is seeking ways to increase the safety of spices.

In addition, many foods become contaminated when prepared by people who don't wash their hands thoroughly after using the toilet or changing a diaper. Infection also can occur if you touch something that is contaminated, including pets, especially birds and reptiles, then put your fingers in your mouth.

### References:

Texas Department of State Health Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Mayo Clinic

### More links:

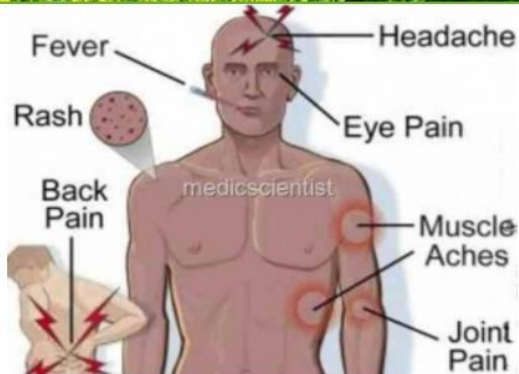
<http://healthindicators.dshs.texas.gov/>  
<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/>  
<http://mayoclinichealthsystem.org/>

About Me



## Symptoms of Salmonellosis

Unfortunately it is often difficult to tell if someone has Salmonellosis due to the fact that most of its symptoms occur within the body, but here are some tells:



Tamilseithy.net

## Salmonella infection

Almost any kind of food or beverage can carry the bacteria that causes salmonella infection, although meat and eggs the most are common sources.

Contaminated food or drink

### How salmonella progresses

Bacteria travel to small intestine, adhere to lining; begin life cycle

In severe cases, bacteria break through intestinal wall to bloodstream; can be deadly if not properly treated



### Symptoms

Within 12-72 hours

Nausea, vomiting, fever, diarrhea, abdominal cramps

4-7 days Illness ranges from mild to severe; most people recover without treatment

Severe cases More likely with infants, elderly, people with impaired immune systems

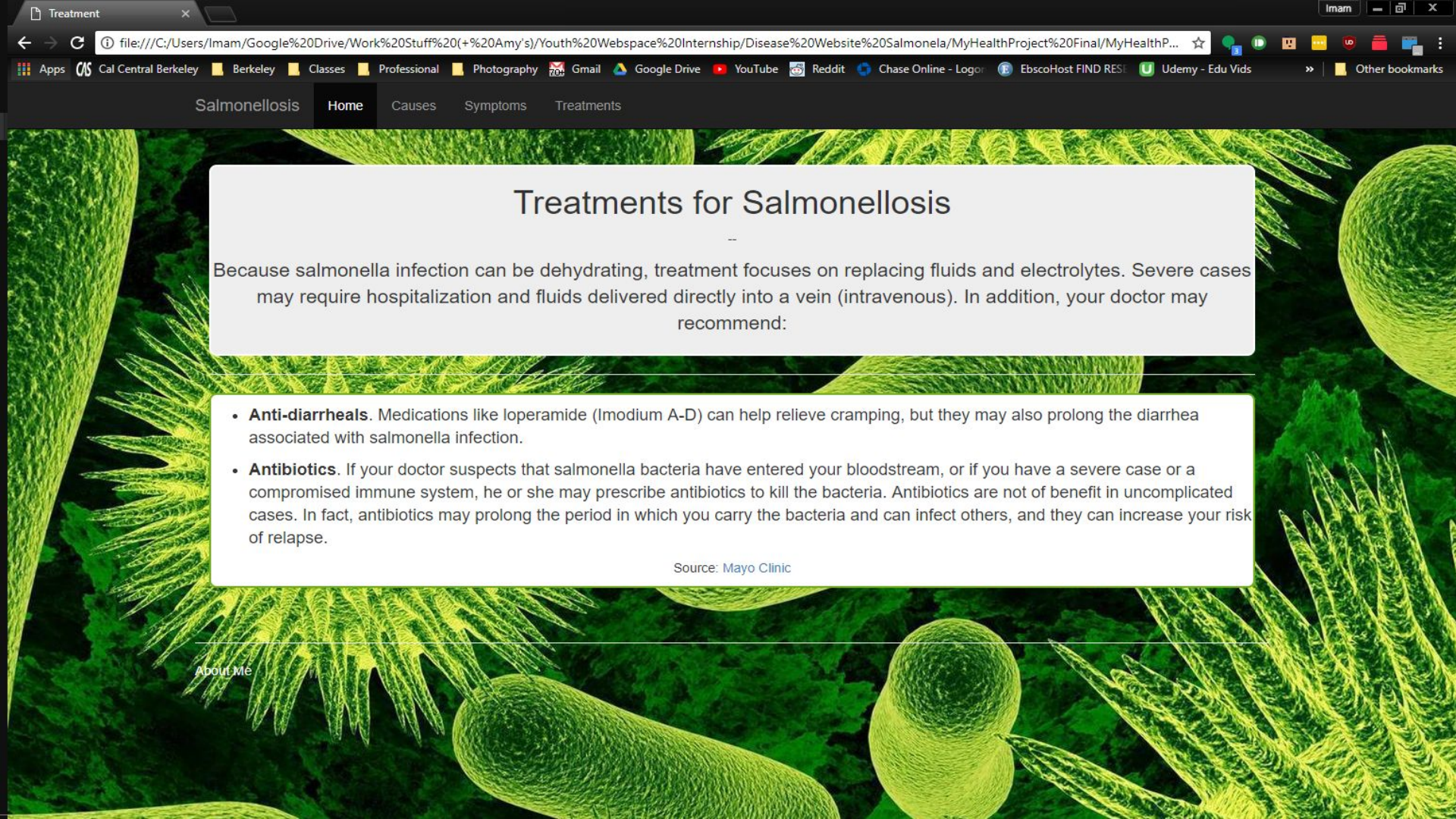
### Treatment

Oral or injected antibiotics, usually for 2 weeks

© 2009 MCT  
Source: U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Current Medical Diagnosis & Treatment, Mayo Clinic

Rayur.com





# Treatments for Salmonellosis

Because salmonella infection can be dehydrating, treatment focuses on replacing fluids and electrolytes. Severe cases may require hospitalization and fluids delivered directly into a vein (intravenous). In addition, your doctor may recommend:

- **Anti-diarrheals.** Medications like loperamide (Imodium A-D) can help relieve cramping, but they may also prolong the diarrhea associated with salmonella infection.
- **Antibiotics.** If your doctor suspects that salmonella bacteria have entered your bloodstream, or if you have a severe case or a compromised immune system, he or she may prescribe antibiotics to kill the bacteria. Antibiotics are not of benefit in uncomplicated cases. In fact, antibiotics may prolong the period in which you carry the bacteria and can infect others, and they can increase your risk of relapse.

Source: [Mayo Clinic](#)