STEPS IN A FOODBORNE OUTBREAK INVESTIGATION



1

DETECT

Detect a possible outbreak through public health surveillance





FIND

Find more cases in the outbreak



GENERATE

Generate hypotheses through interviews with sick people.





TEST

Test hypotheses to find a likely source. If no source is found and cases continue, return to step 3.



SOLVE

Solve source of the outbreak and ultimate point of contamination.





CONTROL

Control outbreak through recalls, facility improvements, and industry collaboration.



DECIDE

Decide an outbreak is over and the public is no longer at risk. If cases go up again, continue or restart the investigation.

Foodborne outbreak investigations are dynamic. In reality, some steps may happen at the same time.

