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Public Health Advisory

Trichinella alert for Coral Harbour

September 14, 2021
Coral Harbour, NU

The Department of Health is advising residents of Coral Harbour that a walrus harvested on August 21, 2021 has tested positive for trichinella.

If you have eaten any uncooked walrus recently, and have experienced stomach pain, muscle pain, diarrhea, swollen eyelids, sweating and weakness, you might be infected with trichinella. Let your health care provider know that you ate uncooked walrus if you have any of these symptoms.

If you harvest walrus consider getting it tested before eating. If you receive walrus from someone else, ask if it has been tested. Freezing or fermenting meat will not kill trichinella; it can only be killed by cooking. Do not feed infected meat to animals as they can also get sick.

If you have questions or want to learn more on walrus testing, contact Gary Nelson, Environmental Health Officer by e-mail at gnelson@gov.nu.ca or by dialing 867-645-6660.

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