**Interview Script Examples**

**Introduction**

*Example 1: Adapted from Minnesota Department of Health standard foodborne disease outbreak case questionnaire.*

Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and I’m calling from\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I’m calling because there have been several cases of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in our community and we are working to identify the source of infection, so we can prevent additional illness in the community. We understand that you are one of the people who had this illness. I would like to ask you some questions about your illness and foods that you ate before becoming ill, that will help us in this work. This will take about \_\_\_\_ minutes. Can we go ahead?

*If no*: Is there a convenient time I can call you back?

Day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_:\_\_\_ am pm

*Example 2: Adapted from Investigation by the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program*

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am an investigator with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Could I please speak to (client name)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

I am calling because we are doing some follow-up with people who were diagnosed with *Salmonella* in the past 6 weeks, and we need your help to prevent additional illnesses in your community. You may remember speaking to one of our staff when you were diagnosed with *Salmonella* a few months ago. Around the same time, other cases of *Salmonella* occurred in the area, and we have not been able to confirm where you and these other people acquired their illness. We have some extra questions we would like to ask you today that will help us identify how you became ill, and may be able to prevent other people from getting ill.

Your participation is voluntary and your personal information you provide is confidential and will not be shared with anyone outside of the investigative team. Anonymous results from this survey will be shared with others so we can work together to reduce the number of *Salmonella* cases

in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and we would be happy to share the results with you once our investigation is complete. The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Would you like to participate?

Before we begin, since we will be talking about events that happened up to 6 weeks ago, you may find it helpful to use an agenda, calendar, or daytimer, or to check your computer, email, or Smartphone or Blackberry. I would be happy to wait for you if you could find such an aid.

Would you like to take some time now to try to find a calendar?

**Conclusions**

*Example 1: Adapted from a provincial investigation questionnaire*

Thank you for taking the time to speak with us about your illness. Do you have any final questions or comments?

The questionnaire is now complete. Thank you very much for your participation.

*Example 2: Adapted from Investigation by the Canadian Field Epidemiology Program*

This brings us to the end of the interview. Are there any other questions you would like to ask?

Would you like to be contacted again to learn the outcome of this investigation?

We may need to contact you again in the future as we get closer to determining the potential cause of your infection. Would that be okay?

I would like to express our sincere thanks to you for assisting us with this very important investigation. Thank you for your time.