Infant and Child Health Advisory

The Kentucky Department for Public Health is sharing notice from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration that certain products from Abbott Nutrition have been associated with four infant illnesses and hospitalizations in Ohio, Minnesota, and Texas. Contamination of product and illnesses are associated with Cronobacter sakazakii infections and one report of Salmonella Newport.

The FDA advised consumers to avoid purchasing or using recalled powdered infant formula produced by Abbott Nutrition in their Sturgis, MI facility. The recall does not include liquid formula products or any metabolic deficiency nutrition formulas. Consumers should continue to use all product not included in the recall.

The recalled products are Similac, Alimentum, or EleCare powdered infant formulas, and can be identified by the 7 to 9 digit code and expiration date on the bottom of the package (see image below). Products are included in the recall if they have all three items below:

1. the first two digits of the code are 22 through 37 and
2. the code on the container contains K8, SH, or Z2, and
3. the expiration date is 4-1-2022 (APR 2022) or later.

Additional recall information is available on the FDA website. Parents can also enter their product lot code at SimilacRecall.com to check if it is part of the recall.

What should parents and caregivers do?

- Parents and caregivers of infants who have used these products, and are concerned about the health of their child, should contact their child’s health care provider. If your child is experiencing illness, you should notify your child’s healthcare provider and seek medical care for your child immediately.

- Parents and caregivers should never dilute infant formula and should not make or feed homemade infant formula to infants. Consumers should also avoid purchasing imported formula through online sales, as it has the potential to be counterfeit.

- If your regular formula is not available due to the recall, contact your child’s healthcare provider for recommendations on changing feeding practices or new prescription for formula.

- If your infant receives powdered formula through the WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program, formula not indicated in the recall is safe to use as well as other brands of infant formula, including liquid and Ready-to-Food products. Families should contact their local health department WIC clinic for more information about their benefits during regular business hours.

For more information about the recall or Cronobacter and Salmonella infections, please visit: https://bit.ly/3JGn1m2.