

ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Communicable Disease Division

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Health Alert: Powdered Infant Formula Recall

Colleagues,

The FDA and CDC are investigating three reports of *Cronobacter sakazakii* infections and one report of *Salmonella* Newport infection in infants. All four cases related to these complaints were hospitalized and *Cronobacter* may have contributed to a death in one case.

Full text of the voluntary product recall may be found here.

The FDA is advising consumers not to use Similac, Alimentum or EleCare powdered infant formulas if:

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

The code is printed on the product packaging near the expiration date. This advisory does not include liquid formula products or any metabolic deficiency nutrition formulas. Consumers should continue to use all product not covered by this advisory.

Cronobacter bacteria can cause severe, life-threatening infections (sepsis) or meningitis. Symptoms of sepsis and meningitis may include poor feeding, irritability, temperature changes, jaundice, grunting breaths, and abnormal movements. Cronobacter infection may also cause bowel damage and may spread through the blood to other parts of the body.

Infection with *Salmonella* can cause nausea and vomiting, abdominal cramps, diarrhea (sometimes bloody), fever, and headache.

Please advise families that have children that may use formula to check their supply of powdered infant formula and to discard any product that is linked to this recall. **If you suspect** *Cronobacter sakazakii* or *Salmonella* infection in an infant that may be related to this recall, please notify AHD by calling our provider reporting line at 703.746.4951.

Thank you for all you do to support our community.

Sincerely, David C. Rose, MD, MBA, FAAP Health Director, Alexandria Health Department

