



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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DISEASE CONTROL UNIT

Salmonella in Peanut Butter February 18, 2007

For immediate release:

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Local Public Health Officials Warn Against Consumption of Certain Brands of Peanut Butter

INCIDENT

- On February 14, 2007, Federal Food and Drug Administration advised consumers not to eat any Peter Pan peanut butter purchased since May 2006 and not to eat Great Value peanut butter with a product code beginning with "2111" purchased since May 2006 (both made by Con Agra Foods) because of risk of contamination with Salmonella Tennessee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Individuals who have recently eaten the affected Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter and who have experienced any symptoms of Salmonella infection should contact their health care provider immediately and contact Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency at (831) 454 4114. Symptoms include fever, diarrhea and abdominal cramps.
- Anyone who has a jar of the affected peanut butter also should report that they have a jar to Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services at 831-454-2022. Individuals who have eaten the affected peanut butter within the last week and who do not feel sick most likely will not get sick.
- Any Peter Pan peanut butter purchased since May 2006 and any Great Value peanut butter purchased since May 2006 with product codes beginning with the numbers "2111" on the jar lid should be thrown out. If consumers cannot find a number on the jar lid or are unsure, the safest thing to do is to discard the product.

INFORMATION

- As of February 15, 2007, 290 people from 39 states, including two from California have been reported with Salmonella Tennessee infections. Salmonella is a bacterium that causes food-borne illness, and "Tennessee" is a type of Salmonella. Symptoms include fever, diarrhea and abdominal cramps and occur one to three days after infection. The illness usually lasts four to seven days and most individuals will recover without treatment. For persons in poor health or with weakened immune systems, Salmonella can invade the bloodstream and cause life-threatening infections.

RECALL STATUS AND FOR MORE INFORMATION

ConAgra is recalling all Peter Pan peanut butter and all Great Value peanut butter beginning with product code 2111 that already was distributed. The company also is destroying all affected products in its possession. The company has stopped production and is working to identify the cause of the contamination. ConAgra has advised consumers to destroy all Peter Pan peanut butter and any Great Value peanut butter beginning with product code 2111. For additional information please contact Santa Cruz County Environmental Health at 831-454-2022.

For more information see:

<http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01563.html> (press release)

and <http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/pnutbuqa.html> (questions and answers).

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.