

June 06, 2016

Attention: Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Hospitals - Emergency Rooms / Infection Control / Occupational Health, Walk-In Clinics, Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, Corrections, Childcare Centres, Schools.

RE: URGENT FOOD RECALL: Neilson Partly Skimmed Chocolate Milk recalled due to *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination.

On June 3, 2016, Saputo Inc. recalled one lot of Neilson brand Partly Skimmed Chocolate Milk from the marketplace due to *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination. This lot had a best before date of June 1, 2016 and now the recall has been extended to lots up to and including June 22, 2016.

Please find the recall warning on Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA's) website: <http://inspection.gc.ca/about-the-cfia/newsroom/food-recall-warnings/complete-listing/2016-06-04d/eng/1465019472917/1465019475559>.

The recall was triggered by an ongoing investigation into an outbreak of *Listeria* in Ontario. Further recalls will also be posted on CFIA's website. **Recalled products should be thrown out or returned to the store where they were purchased.** Food contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* may not look or smell spoiled but can still make you sick.

Hospitals, Long Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes

Hospitals, Long Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes have patients/ residents who may be at risk for complications from *Listeria* infection (e.g. elderly, immunocompromised or pregnant women), we are advising you to:

- **discard the recalled lot of Neilson chocolate milk with a best before date of June 22, 2016; and**
- **put on hold any other Neilson chocolate milk products until further investigation results are available (i.e., mark any other Neilson chocolate milk product so that these are not consumed until further notice).**

For further information or questions regarding the recall, please contact Richard Ovcharovich, Food Safety Manager at 1-866-888-4577 x2222.

If the product was consumed, institutions should be vigilant in monitoring their clients' for symptoms of listeriosis: vomiting, nausea, persistent fever, muscle aches, severe headache and neck stiffness.

Laboratory Testing

Individuals who have eaten suspect food only require laboratory testing if they have symptoms of meningitis and invasive disease. Specimens for *Listeria monocytogenes* should not be collected on asymptomatic patients.

If the patient has invasive disease symptoms such as fever or meningitis:

Specimens to be submitted to a local diagnostic laboratory:

- Blood cultures
- Two sets of blood cultures should be taken from different sites. A third set of blood cultures should be drawn if and only if endocarditis is suspected. Collect another set of blood cultures after 48hrs if the previous cultures are negative and there is ongoing concern of invasive infection with *Listeria monocytogenes*.
- Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)
- Sterile site fluids and tissues such as joint fluid, cord blood and placental tissue

Further testing details are available at:

https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/eRepository/LAB_SD_043_Listeria_monocytogenes_specimen_collection.pdf

Should you have any questions, please contact the Health Unit and ask to speak with a nurse in the Communicable Disease Control, Epidemiology and Evaluation Department.

Haliburton
705-457-1391

Lindsay
705-324-3569

Port Hope
905-885-9100

After Hours
1-888-255-7839