

Health Update:

Update: Two cases of invasive *Enterobacter sakazakii* infection in infants treated in Missouri hospitals

December 20, 2011

This document will be updated as new information becomes available. The current version can always be viewed at <http://www.health.mo.gov>

The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) is now using 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

Health Alerts convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from Missouri health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies or the public.

Health Advisories provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

Health Guidances contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by DHSS.

Health Updates provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

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FROM: MARGARET T. DONNELLY
DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Update: Two cases of invasive *Enterobacter sakazakii* infection in infants treated in Missouri hospitals

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) has received questions from Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) providers and physicians concerning the use of powdered formula following the December 19, 2011, Health Alert concerning invasive *Enterobacter sakazakii* infections in two infants treated in Missouri hospitals. For clarification, the powdered formula being tested for the bacteria is not a WIC approved formula. No formula offered by the WIC program has been implicated in the investigation.

As a reminder, when reconstituting powdered formula, it is recommended that the water be brought to a boil for two minutes and then let cool before mixing the formula. This procedure should be followed regardless of the water source. The following link provides guidelines for infant formula preparation: <http://health.mo.gov/living/families/wic/wiclwp/pdf/InfantFormulaFactSheetEnglish.pdf>.

The December 19, 2011, Health Alert on the *Enterobacter sakazakii* infections is available at: <http://health.mo.gov/emergencies/ert/alertsadvisories/pdf/HA-Enterobacter121911.pdf>

Questions should be directed to DHSS' Bureau of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention at 800/392-0272 (24/7).

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