



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



6 August 2013

FDA ADVISORY

No. 2013-022

SUBJECT: WHEY PROTEIN CONCENTRATE (WPC80) PRODUCED BY FONTERRA IN NEW ZEALAND CONTAMINATED WITH *Clostridium botulinum* ARE NOT IN BRANDS OF DAIRY PRODUCT AND INFANT FORMULA IN THE PHILIPPINES

The FDA assures the public that it has coordinated with the local importer and distributor of Fonterra Brands (Phils.) Inc. regarding the three batches of whey protein concentrate (WPC80) produced at a single Fonterra manufacturing site in New Zealand and were found positive for the presence of *Clostridium botulinum* last July 31, 2013. The following Fonterra-branded consumer products in the Philippines, namely Anchor, Anlene, Annum, Mainland, and Perfect Italiano, do not contain whey protein from the batches of WPC80. Other Fonterra brands, across all markets in the world, include the following: Allowrie, Anchor, Anlene, Annum, Bates, Bega, Boneeto, Bonlac, Boy & Cow, Calci-Yum, Chesdale, Country Goodness, Country Soft, Crofters, Dairy Dale, De Winkel, Diploma, Dos Alamos, Doyarushka, Duck River, Eon, Falcon, Farmland, Fern, Ferndale, Fernleaf, Filthy Rich, Fresh 'n Fruity, Galaxy, Girgar, IceBar, Kapiti, Koes, Mainland, Mammoth Supply Co, Memphis Meltdown, Mountain Maid, Munchables, Next, Perfect Italiano, Philadelphia, Piako, Primo, Ratthi, Red Cow, Riverina Fresh, Ski, Slimmers Choice, Soleil, Soprole, Sunny South, Symbio Probalance, Tastee, Tip Top, ULA, Valumetric, Western Star, and Zing.

Clostridium botulinum is a species of harmful spore-forming bacteria that produce preformed toxin in processed food products, especially when manufacturing or processing plants fail to implement proper food hygienic practices and sterilization of canned goods or any tightly sealed food products. Ingestion of preformed toxin may result to symptoms like double vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing and muscle weakness that is symmetric and descends through the body and possibly death, usually due to respiratory failure. Thus, the pathogenic bacteria are also known as "canned goods bacilli" that causes "flaccid paralysis".

The FDA will be collecting samples in the market for testing as part of its monitoring and surveillance activities.

All consumers are advised to buy dairy products and infant formulae that are registered with the FDA. Moreover, all consumers are hereby informed that whey protein concentrates are also found in high-nutrient food or dietary supplements for body builders. They are advised to make sure that the products that they buy have passed FDA safety and quality evaluation by logging in to the FDA website (<http://www.fda.gov.ph>).

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make sure that the products that they buy have passed FDA safety and quality evaluation by logging in to the FDA website (<http://www.fda.gov.ph>).

To verify if a product is registered with the FDA, use the **SEARCH** tab found in the upper right hand corner of the website. Type in the product name and wait until the name of the product appears. Click on the product name and other details will appear, such as the company, the Certificate of Product Registration No. (CPR No.) and the expiration date of the CPR.

This advisory also extends to all mothers, who are nursing the infants, to continue breastfeeding since it is the safest milk for their babies.

To report any adverse reactions from consuming a specific health product, please email us at report@fda.gov.ph . For other inquiries, kindly email us at info@fda.gov.ph .


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