

**FDA ADVISORY**

No. 2024-0409

27 FEB 2024

**TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

**SUBJECT: FDA REMINDERS FOR THE NATIONAL DENTAL HEALTH MONTH IN FEBRUARY**

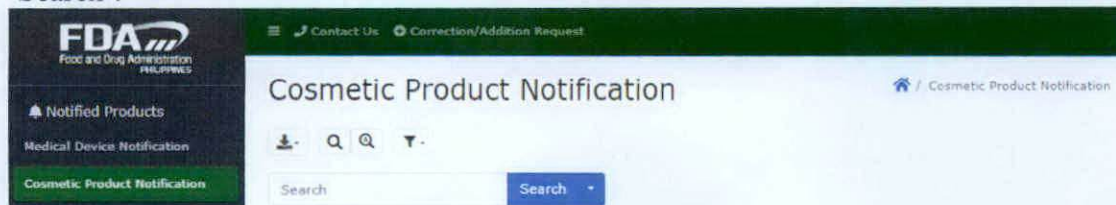
Presidential Proclamation No. 559, series of 2004, declares the month of February every year as National Dental Health Month. In line with this proclamation, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reminds the general public on the proper selection and use of toothpaste products, and its importance to oral health.

Oral health is a fundamental component of one's overall health and well-being. Poor oral hygiene can lead to several conditions such as tooth decay, gingivitis, bad breath, and periodontal diseases; some studies have linked poor oral hygiene with an increased risk for respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, and chronic kidney disease.

One of the most widely used oral hygiene products are toothbrushes and toothpaste. A toothpaste is a paste or gel applied to a toothbrush to clean the teeth's surface. Choosing the right type of toothpaste is crucial in maintaining optimal oral health. **The use of toothpastes containing Fluoride is an effective way to prevent tooth decay.**

In order to raise awareness on the proper selection and use of toothpaste products, the public is hereby encouraged to consider the following information and practice these safety precautions:

1. **Verify the product.** Before purchasing or using any cosmetic product, ensure that it has been notified with the FDA. Use the FDA Verification Portal via their website: <https://verification.fda.gov.ph>. To check, select 'Cosmetic Product Notification' on the left panel, enter the product name or notification number in the search bar, and click 'Search'.



2. **Check the product information.** Avoid purchasing or using cosmetic products beyond their expiration date.
3. **Use toothpastes appropriately.** Brush your teeth with fluoride toothpaste twice daily, using a soft-bristled toothbrush. Replace the toothbrush every 3 to 4 months or as needed. More tips can be found in the information, education and communication materials attached to this Advisory.



4. **Ask your dentist.** Consult your dentist every 6 months or twice a year.
5. **Report to the FDA.** To report any sale, distribution, complaint, and/or adverse event related to violative cosmetic products, access the online reporting facility at [info@fda.gov.ph](mailto:info@fda.gov.ph). You can also contact the Center for Cosmetics and Household/Urban Hazardous Substances Regulation and Research (CCHUHSRR) hotline at (02) 8857-1900 loc. 8113 or 8107.

Dissemination of this advisory to all concerned is hereby requested.

  
**DR. SAMUEL A. ZACATE**  
Director General

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