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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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PRESS RELEASE No. 2021 - 053

July 19, 2021

Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. Issues Voluntary Recall of Specific NEUTROGENA® and AVEENO® Aerosol Sunscreen Products Due to the Presence of Benzene

The Division of Environmental Health (DEH) of the Department of Public Health and Social Services, in coordination with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration, would like to inform the public of a nationwide recall of all lots of five NEUTROGENA® and AVEENO® aerosol sunscreen product lines to the consumer level. Internal testing identified low levels of benzene in some samples of the products. Benzene is classified as a human carcinogen, a substance that could potentially cause cancer depending on the level and extent of exposure. The only sunscreen products impacted are aerosol products, specifically:

- NEUTROGENA® Beach Defense® aerosol sunscreen,
- NEUTROGENA® Cool Dry Sport aerosol sunscreen,
- NEUTROGENA® Invisible Daily™ defense aerosol sunscreen,
- NEUTROGENA® Ultra Sheer® aerosol sunscreen, and
- AVEENO® Protect + Refresh aerosol sunscreen.

Product images and lot information are available on www.neutrogena.com and www.aveeno.com.

Benzene can be absorbed, to varying degrees, by inhalation, through the skin, and orally. Based on exposure modeling and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) framework, daily exposure to benzene in these aerosol sunscreen products at the levels detected in testing would not be expected to cause adverse health consequences. While benzene is not an ingredient in any of the sunscreen products, it was detected in some samples of the impacted aerosol sunscreen finished products. Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. are investigating the cause of this issue.

Out of an abundance of caution, Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. is recalling all lots of these specific aerosol sunscreen products. The recalled sunscreen products are packaged in aerosol cans, and were distributed nationwide through a variety of retail channels.

DEH is currently communicating and conducting recall effectiveness checks with local retailers and distributors to determine if any of the affected products are sold on Guam.

The Department has not received any local report of injuries or illnesses associated with the consumption of these recalled commodities. Anyone concerned about a reaction should contact a healthcare provider. Consumers who have purchased the items listed above should stop using these specific products and appropriately discard them. Consumers may contact the JJCI Consumer Care Center 24/7 with questions or to request a refund by calling 1-800-458-1673. JJCI is also notifying its distributors and retailers by letter and is arranging for returns of all recalled products.

For any questions, please contact the Consumer Commodities Program at the Division of Environmental Health at 300-9579.

Senseramente,

ARTHUR U. SAN AGUSTIN, MHR
Director

Attached

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. Issues Voluntary Recall of Specific NEUTROGENA® and AVEENO® Aerosol Sunscreen Products Due to the Presence of Benzene

Summary

Company Announcement Date:

July 14, 2021

FDA Publish Date:

July 14, 2021

Product Type:

Drugs

Reason for Announcement:

Testing identified low levels of benzene

Company Name:

Johnson & Johnson

Brand Name:

Neutrogena, Aveeno

Product Description:

Sunscreen

Company Announcement

Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. (JJCI) is voluntarily recalling all lots of five NEUTROGENA® and AVEENO® aerosol sunscreen product lines to the consumer level. Internal testing identified low levels of benzene in some samples of the products. Consumers should stop using the affected products and follow the instructions set forth below.

The only sunscreen products impacted are aerosol products, specifically:

- NEUTROGENA® Beach Defense® aerosol sunscreen,

- NEUTROGENA® Cool Dry Sport aerosol sunscreen,
- NEUTROGENA® Invisible Daily™ defense aerosol sunscreen,
- NEUTROGENA® Ultra Sheer® aerosol sunscreen, and
- AVEENO® Protect + Refresh aerosol sunscreen.

Product images and lot information is available on www.Neutrogena.com (http://www.neutrogena.com/) (http://www.fda.gov/about-fda/website-policies/website-disclaimer) and www.Aveeno.com (http://www.aveeno.com/) (http://www.fda.gov/about-fda/website-policies/website-disclaimer).

Benzene is classified as a human carcinogen, a substance that could potentially cause cancer depending on the level and extent of exposure. Benzene is ubiquitous in the environment. Humans around the world have daily exposures indoors and outdoors from multiple sources. Benzene can be absorbed, to varying degrees, by inhalation, through the skin, and orally. Based on exposure modeling and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) framework, daily exposure to benzene in these aerosol sunscreen products at the levels detected in our testing would not be expected to cause adverse health consequences. Out of an abundance of caution, we are recalling all lots of these specific aerosol sunscreen products.

While benzene is not an ingredient in any of our sunscreen products, it was detected in some samples of the impacted aerosol sunscreen finished products. We are investigating the cause of this issue, which is limited to certain aerosol sunscreen products.

Sunscreen use is critical to public health. Melanoma incidences continue to increase worldwide, and the majority of cases are caused by excessive sun exposure. It is important that people everywhere continue to take appropriate sun protection measures, including the continued use of alternative sunscreen.

The recalled sunscreen products are packaged in aerosol cans. The products were distributed nationwide through a variety of retail channels.

Consumers should stop using these specific products and appropriately discard them. Consumers may contact the JJCI Consumer Care Center 24/7 with questions or to request a refund by calling 1-800-458-1673. Consumers should contact their physician or healthcare provider if they have any questions, concerns or have experienced any problems related to using these aerosol sunscreen products. JJCI is also notifying its distributors and retailers by letter and is arranging for returns of all recalled products.

Adverse reactions or quality problems experienced with the use of this product may be reported to the FDA's MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting program either online, by regular mail or by fax.

- Complete and submit the report Online (/safety/medwatch-fda-safety-information-and-adverse-event-reporting-program/reporting-serious-problems-fda)

- Regular Mail or Fax: Download form (/safety/medical-product-safety-information/medwatch-forms-fda-safety-reporting) or call 1- 800-332-1088 to request a reporting form, then complete and return to the address on the pre-addressed form, or submit by fax to 1-800-FDA-0178

This recall is being conducted with the knowledge of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Cautions Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 regarding the voluntary recall of specific NEUTROGENA® and AVEENO® aerosol sunscreen products. The reader is cautioned not to rely on these forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations of future events. If underlying assumptions prove inaccurate or known or unknown risks or uncertainties materialize, actual results could vary materially from the expectations and projections of Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. and/or Johnson & Johnson. Risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: product efficacy or safety concerns resulting in product recalls or regulatory action; significant adverse litigation or government action, including related to product liability claims; uncertainty of commercial success for new and existing products; the ability of the company to successfully execute strategic plans; manufacturing difficulties or delays, internally or within the supply chain; changes to applicable laws and regulations; changes in behavior and spending patterns of purchasers of health care products and services; and increased scrutiny of the health care industry by government agencies. A further list and descriptions of these risks, uncertainties and other factors can be found in Johnson & Johnson's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 3, 2021, including in the sections captioned "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and "Item 1A. Risk Factors," and in the company's most recently filed Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and the company's subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Copies of these filings are available online at www.sec.gov (http://www.sec.gov/), www.jnj.com (http://www.jnj.com/) (http://www.fda.gov/about-fda/website-policies/website-disclaimer) or on request from Johnson & Johnson. Neither Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. nor Johnson & Johnson undertakes to update any forward-looking statement as a result of new information or future events or developments. The Company expressly disclaims all liability in respect to actions taken or not taken based on any or all the contents of this press release.

Company Contact Information

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More Recalls, Market Withdrawals, & Safety Alerts (/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts)