

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RECALLED JEM RAW NUT BUTTER SPREADS ASSOCIATED WITH SALMONELLA ILLNESS

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) is alerting residents of a voluntary product recall of JEM Raw nut butter spreads. A confirmed case of salmonella infection that occurred in October in a Hawaii resident has been linked to a multistate outbreak related to the nut butter products. Product recall information is available at http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm475341.htm

JEM Raw nut butters are packaged in glass jars, and sold under brand name JEM Raw Organics. On Dec. 2, 2015, JEM Raw Chocolate, LLC (Jem Raw) voluntarily recalled all 12 of its nut butter spreads due to potential contamination with Salmonella. JEM raw products were distributed nationwide in retail stores, by mail order and internet. The public is advised to discard the recalled product and its container.

To date, 11 people from nine states have been infected with the same outbreak strain of Salmonella associated with the product. No one has been hospitalized, and no deaths have been reported.

Most persons infected with Salmonella develop diarrhea, fever, and stomach cramps. The illness usually lasts 5 to 7 days, and most persons, recover without treatment. Persons with severe diarrhea may require rehydration with intravenous fluids. The elderly, infants, and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness.