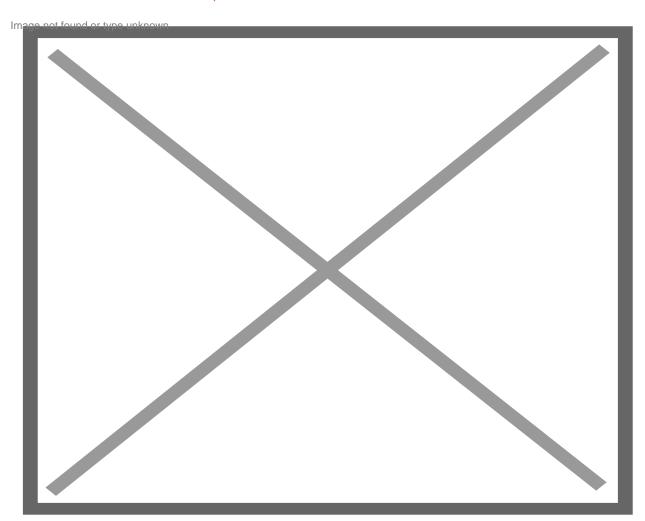
Nationwide Listeria Outbreak From Nate's Fine Foods Pasta Meals Kills Six, Hospitalizes Twenty-Five

The FDA says 27 people across 18 states have been infected in a Listeria monocytogenes outbreak linked to prepared pasta meals. Consumers are urged to check their shelves and freezers for recalled products sold under various brand names.

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Recalled Nate's Fine Foods pasta meals linked to a nationwide Listeria outbreak that has killed six and hospitalized twenty-five, prompting recalls from major retailers including Walmart, Trader Joe's, and Kroger.

Consumers of microwavable pasta are asked to be on the alert as a wave of listeria infections linked to one brand of prepared pasta meals has killed at least six people and hospitalized twenty-

five.

The listeria outbreak, first announced in June, affects dozens of products sold by Nate's Fine Foods. Linguine with meatballs, marinara, pasta salads, fettucine Alfredo, and other pasta dishes are all affected. Several national chains, including Walmart, Trader Joe's, and Kroger, have already issued recalls for the products.

Sold under different brand names, the full recall list is available on the Food and Drug Administration <u>website</u>. Although retailers in the Virgin Islands have not been listed among the outlets which sold the now-recalled products, consumers in the territory are advised to carefully scrutinize the pre-packaged, reheatable pasta meals on their supermarket shelves to ensure what they are purchasing is not on the list.

People are also asked to check their refrigerators and freezers to ensure that none of the affected products are already in the home.

As of October 30, the outbreak had infected 27 people across 18 states, hospitalized 25 and killed six people. "One pregnancy-associated illness resulted in a fetal loss," said the FDA. Authorities continue to investigate and track the Listeria monocytogenes outbreak.

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