

CDPH Health Advisory:

Outbreak of Infant Botulism Linked to ByHeart Infant Formula November 14, 2025

On November 11, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued a health advisory on an outbreak of infant botulism (15 cases nationwide to date, including 2 in California) linked to ByHeart Infant Formula that provides guidance on reporting, testing, and treatment. To date, there have been no cases of infant botulism linked to ByHeart infant formula in San Francisco. SFDPH continues to closely monitor the situation as it evolves.

Recommendations:

- Maintain a high index suspicion for infant botulism and ask parents about the use of ByHeart Whole Nutrition infant formula in any suspected cases.
- If infant botulism is suspected, consult with experts at the <u>CDPH Infant Botulism</u>
 <u>Treatment and Prevention Program</u> immediately at 510-231-7600. Consultation is available 24/7.
 - If clinical consultation supports a diagnosis of infant botulism, begin treatment with BabyBIG® (provided by the CDPH Infant Botulism and Treatment Prevention Program) as soon as possible. Do not wait for laboratory confirmation.

Infant botulism is a notifiable disease. All suspected cases must be reported immediately by telephone to the <u>local health department of the patient's residence</u>. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) Communicable Disease program can be reached at (628) 217-6100 or cdcontrol@sfdph.org.

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