DATE: 03/06/2023
TO: Health Alert Network
FROM: Debra L. Bogen, MD, FAAP, Acting Secretary of Health
SUBJECT: Recall of Primark Bamboo Plates
DISTRIBUTION: Statewide
LOCATION: Statewide
STREET ADDRESS: n/a
COUNTY: n/a
MUNICIPALITY: n/a
ZIP CODE: n/a

This transmission is a “Health Advisory,” and provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

HOSPITALS: PLEASE SHARE WITH ALL MEDICAL, PEDIATRIC, INFECTION CONTROL, NURSING AND LABORATORY STAFF IN YOUR HOSPITAL EMS COUNCILS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE; FQHCs: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE; LOCAL HEALTH JURISDICTIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE AS APPROPRIATE; PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Summary

- Primark bamboo plates have been recalled because of elevated levels of lead and formaldehyde. Lead and formaldehyde are toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health issues.

- The plates were sold in the shape of a bunny, a bear, Winnie the Pooh character and a rainbow. The following numbers 6041901, 7981401, 8096001 and 8096002 are printed on the product packaging and were sold at US stores located in the northeast region, including Willow grove, Philadelphia, and King of Prussia, from October 2021 through August 2022.

- Consumers should immediately take the recalled plates away from children, stop using them and return them to a Primark store for a full refund or consumers can contact Primark for instructions on how to properly dispose of the product to also receive a full refund.

- More information about this recall including specific items being recalled is available on the CPSC’s website and Recall Notice - Bamboo Plates – Primark

- Consider testing children for lead exposure from these and other sources.

- For more information on childhood lead exposure in Pennsylvania, visit Lead (pa.gov), or contact DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH if you have any questions.

Background

Lead exposure can have serious consequences for children and pregnant women’s health. Lead is ubiquitous in the environment, and unfortunately, we cannot see, taste or smell lead. Lead is much more harmful to children and pregnant women because it can affect children’s developing nervous system and brains.

The Primark Bamboo Plates have been found to release trace amounts of lead and formaldehyde at levels higher than allowed, and this may present a risk if ingested. Lead and formaldehyde are toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health issues. Lead and formaldehyde may be
absorbed directly by eating food served on the plates and could also be absorbed by licking or through the skin by handling the plates.

The plates were sold in the shape of a bunny, a bear, Winnie the Pooh character and a rainbow. The following numbers 6041901, 7981401, 8096001 and 8096002, are printed on the product packaging and were sold at US stores located in the northeast region, Florida, and Chicago from October 2021 through August 2022. They were recalled on March 02, 2023. See the pictures below:

Recommendations associated with this recall

- Review recall information including pictures of the specific item being recalled. This information is available on the CPSC’s website and Recall Notice - Bamboo Plates – Primark and Customer FAQ - Bamboo Plates – Primark
- Providers should raise awareness about the recalled products among parents and recommend testing, as appropriate.
- Encourage consumers to immediately take the recalled plates away from children, stop using them and return them to a Primark store for a full refund. Consumers can also contact Primark US collect at 617-946-3236 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday for instructions on how to properly dispose of the product to also receive a full refund. No receipt will be necessary for the refund.
- Consider blood lead testing for children if they are exposed to these and other lead sources.

Additional resources on childhood lead exposure

- Lead Poisoning (pa.gov)
  - Elevated Blood Lead Level Resources (pa.gov)
  - Lead Poisoning FAQ (pa.gov)
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program | CDC
- PA DOH lead information 1-800-440-LEAD

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

This information is current as of March 06, 2023 but may be modified in the future.