



NATIONAL CONSUMER COMMISSION

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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**22 FEBRUARY 2022**

### **THE NCC URGES CONSUMERS TO RETURN SIMILAC ALIMENTUM 400G INFANT FORMULA**

The National Consumer Commission (NCC) urges consumers in possession of Similac Alimentum 400G infant formula to immediately discontinue use of the product and return it to the point of sale for a full refund. Acting Commissioner Ms Thezi Mabuza says the supplier informed the Commission of the precautionary recall of Similac Alimentum in South Africa.

“The manufacturer, Abbott Laboratories-Nutrition informed the Commission of a voluntary recall following a global recall as announced by the supplier. We understand that this product is manufactured at their plant in Sturgis, MI, in the United States of America and was imported to South Africa and other countries. The supplier confirmed that the recall was prompted by consumers who reported that their infants presented some symptoms after ingesting the formula in USA” said Commissioner Mabuza.

Though according to Abbott Laboratories, only four cases were reported in the USA, the presence of Cronobacter and Salmonella in an infant formula is a cause for concern. “As the Commission, we want to emphasise that while there are no cases reported in South Africa as yet, we urge consumers who might have bought this product not to feed their infants but to immediately return it to the point of purchase for a full refund” says Ms Mabuza. Consumers are urged to look for the following product description to determine whether the products form part of the recall.

Product Name	Batch Number	Manufacturing date	Exp date
Similac Alimentum 400g Infant Formula	27938z26	March 2021	01 April 2023
	29284Z26	May 2021	01 June 2023



“Ingesting Salmonella may lead to diarrhoea, fever, and abdominal cramps, while Cronobacter infection may also cause damage to the bowel system. We therefore encourage parents who have concerns that they might have fed their infants the product in question to seek medical attention. The Consumer Protection Act (CPA) provides for safety of consumers at all times, and minors are regarded amongst the most vulnerable consumers. We appreciate the precautionary recall by the supplier, however producers/manufacturers are required to supply or distribute goods that are safe and of good quality to avoid these mishaps. The Commission is monitoring the recall based on its Recall Guidelines” she concluded.

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