

F.No. 3./import/alert/FSSAI-2012
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)
3rd floor, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi

Dated: 20th November, 2012

ALERT NOTIFICATION

Subject: Refused Gelatin contaminated with Clostridium difficile from_US FDA.

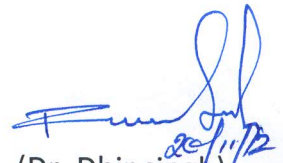
USFDA has communicated that several refused entries of Indian produced bulk gelatin and the raw products were sampled by Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and found positive for Clostridium and the importer decided to export the product back to India. Although the contamination rate detected was low, the microbial species recovered (Clostridium) can pose serious consequences to vulnerable patients and the product is not fit for consumer use.

According to the Centre for Disease Control (CDC), Clostridium difficile is responsible for 14,000 deaths a year. The highest risk patients include people who have been on long term antibiotics. The microbe is an oral fecal transmission so proper hand hygiene is important to stop transmission of the infection. Infected people can become asymptomatic carriers and contribute to ongoing transmission and it is a chronic risk on the health of the staff at the manufacturing plant.

As per this communication, it is a serious issue, all States, Authorized Officers and customs Authorities are requested to make concerted effort to check/stop the entry of above mentioned consignment in to the country. State Food Safety Commissioners will have to ensure that such product do not get into food chain.

This issue with the approval of CEO, FSSAI

Details of the consignment are enclosed herewith.


(Dr. Dhir Singh)
Director (QA)

To

All food safety Commissioners of States/UTs, Authorized Officers and Customs Authorities / All Post health Officers.

