NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
Thomas Farley, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

2011 Advisory # 30
Cronobacter sakazakii infections in neonates

- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is investigating three cases of *Cronobacter sakazakii* in neonates**
- **Please report all sterile site cultures of *Cronobacter sakazakii* and submit isolates to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.**

Please Distribute to All Staff in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Geriatrics, Primary Care, Infectious Diseases, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Laboratory Medicine (including Microbiology) and Infection Control

December 29, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

Three recent cases of invasive disease due to *Cronobacter sakazakii* have been reported in newborns from Missouri, Illinois and Florida. Two of these cases were fatal. A fourth unconfirmed case was reported from Oklahoma today.

C. sakazakii (formerly *Enterobacter sakazakii*) rarely causes human illness but can cause infant septicemia and severe meningitis that typically results in long-term neurological sequelae or death. *Cronobacter* is ubiquitous in the environment and has been found in many foods, including powdered infant formula and water.

Please report sterile site infections with *C. sakazakii* from infants (< 6 months) to the Bureau of Communicable Disease and submit isolates to the NYC Public Health Laboratory.

To submit a case report by phone or fax — Phone: 347-396-2600
Fax: 347-396-2753

For laboratory questions, please contact:
Jennifer Rakeman, PhD or Lillian Lee, MS — 212-447-6783

After business hours contact the Poison Control Center: 212-764-7667 or 1-800-222-1222

Your cooperation in this investigation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Don Weiss
Don Weiss, MD, MPH
Director of Surveillance
Bureau of Communicable Disease

Marci Layton
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