



Oregon

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ODHS-23-025-CBC-NF – Provider Alert

Date: April 11, 2023

To: All Nursing, Assisted Living and Residential Care Facilities

From: ODHS Office of Aging and People with Disabilities
Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit (SOQ)

Subject: **Recalled Eye drops**

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) has issued recent warnings related to recalled eye drops which may be causing bacterial infections.

The CDC is collaborating with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and state and local health departments to investigate a multistate outbreak of an extensively drug-resistant strain of Verona Integron-mediated Metallo- β -lactamase-producing carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (VIM-CRPA).

The outbreak strain had never been reported in the United States prior to this outbreak. The outbreak is associated with multiple types of infections, including eye infections. The investigation to date has identified artificial tears as a common exposure for many patients.

As of March 14, 2023, 68 patients nationwide, have been identified as being affected by the recalled eye drops.

Immediately discontinue using EzriCare or Delsam Artificial Tears pending additional guidance from CDC and FDA.

Patients who have used EzriCare or Delsam Pharma's artificial tears and who have signs or symptoms of an eye infection should seek medical care immediately.

Notify [local public health authority](#) within one working day of CRPA from an ocular specimen or VIM-CRPA from any specimen source with collection dates since January 1, 2022.

For residents of long-term care facilities who are infected or colonized with VIM-CRPA, use [Contact Precautions](#) until otherwise directed by public health. Adherence to [hand hygiene recommendations](#) is key to prevent spread of VIM-CRPA in LTCFs.

For More information:

CDC Outbreak Summary:

<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/crpa-artificial-tears.html>

FDA Consumer Warning:

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-warns-consumers-not-purchase-or-use-ezricare-artificial-tears-due-potential-contamination>