

To: Healthcare Providers, Local Health Directors
From: Lynn Sosa, MD, Director of Infectious Diseases/State Epidemiologist
Subject: Increase awareness for infant botulism cases
Date: June 22, 2026

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released information about a current multistate outbreak of infant botulism linked to [Nara Organics Whole Milk Organic Infant Formula](#).

As of June 13, 2026, a total of 3 infants with infant botulism have been reported in this outbreak from 3 states (California, Pennsylvania, and Washington). They ranged in age from 2–3 months when their illness began. All 3 consumed Nara Organics Whole Milk Organic Infant Formula. All 3 infants were hospitalized and treated with BabyBIG® (Botulism Immune Globulin Intravenous medication), the FDA-approved treatment for infant botulism. No deaths have been reported.

On June 13, 2026, Nara Organics recalled ALL Nara Organics Whole Milk Organic Infant Formula products. This includes all lot numbers and both can sizes. These products were available online and at some major retailers nationwide.

Infant botulism occurs when an infant ingests *Clostridium botulinum* spores, which then grow in the large intestine and produce toxin that blocks the neuromuscular junction by inhibiting the release of acetylcholine. Initial signs and symptoms often include constipation, difficulty feeding (difficulty sucking or swallowing), loss of head control, weak facial expression, and reduced muscle tone. Without prompt recognition and treatment, descending paralysis may progress and involve the respiratory muscles, potentially leading to life-threatening respiratory failure. The time from ingestion to symptom presentation can be up to 30 days. With timely treatment, nearly all infants recover fully.

Clinician Recommendations

- **Consider infant botulism as a clinical diagnosis** in any infant presenting with unexplained weakness, poor feeding, decreased head control, or difficulty swallowing – especially if the infant has consumed Nara Organics Whole Milk Organic Infant Formula.
- **If you suspect your infant patient has botulism, call 510-231-7600** for consultation with the Infant Botulism Treatment and Prevention Program to determine if release of BabyBIG® should occur. Early recognition and treatment are critical.
- **After consultation, call the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH)** to arrange testing of clinical specimens, formula, and any other items that might be implicated.

Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) staff are available 24/7 to assist. Please call 860-509-7994 8:30am–4:30pm Monday–Friday or 860-509-8000 evenings and weekends/holidays. Ask for the infectious disease epidemiologist on call.