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Commissioner

Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

December 1, 2023 DATE:

Governor

TO: All Healthcare Settings, Local Health Departments (LHDs)

FROM: New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)

Health Advisory:

FDA Safety Communication:

Do Not Use Certain Brands of Saline and Sterile Water Medical Products by Nurse Assist **Because They May Not Be Sterile**

Please distribute immediately to:

Pharmacy Directors, Hospital Epidemiologists, Infection Preventionists, Clinical Managers, Administrators, Laboratory Directors, Infectious Disease Physicians, Medical Directors, Nursing Directors, Risk Managers, Purchasing and Supply Directors

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently issued a Safety Communication warning consumers, health care providers, and health care facilities not to use recalled saline (0.9% sodium chloride) and sterile water medical products manufactured by Nurse Assist, LLC. The potentially contaminated products are sold under various brands and include a wide range of product types with expiration dates that extend to 2025 and beyond.

Recommendations for consumers, health care providers, and facilities:

- Check your supply of saline (0.9% sodium chloride) and sterile water medical products (bottles, spray cans, cups, and prefilled syringes) to find out if you have any of the recalled products at home or in your health care facility's inventory.
- Do not use these recalled products and follow the recommendations in the company's recall announcement.
- Be aware that these recalled products may be available as individual units or may be included as part of a kit.
- If you have questions about this recall, contact Nurse Assist, LLC by phone at 800-649-6800 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm (CST) or by e-mail at productremovalinfo@nurseassist.com.
- Report any problems with saline and sterile water medical products by Nurse Assist, LLC to the FDA as directed in the FDA Safety Communication. Reports of HAIs associated with use of these recalled products can be transmitted via MedWatch.
- In addition, report any suspected or confirmed adverse events due to recalled saline and sterile water medical products by Nurse Assist to your NYSDOH regional epidemiologist or the local health department.

Read the FDA Safety communication for further information: https://www.fda.gov/medicaldevices/safety-communications/do-not-use-certain-brands-saline-and-sterile-water-medicalproducts-nurse-assist-because-thev-may

Questions about this advisory can be sent to icp@health.ny.gov.