

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 18

RUANGAN : ISU

# Malaysia tak import produk LNS Lactalis

**Putrajaya:** Malaysia tidak mengimport susu bayi keluaran syarikat LNS Lactalis Group dari Perancis, yang sebelum ini diarah ditarik balik daripada pasaran antarabangsa kerana disyaki terdapat pencemaran bakteria *Salmonella*.

Pengarah Kanan Keselamatan dan Kualiti Makanan Kementerian Kesihatan, Noraini Mohd Othman, berkata kementerian sudah mendapat pengesahan mengenai perkara itu daripada International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFO-SAN) di bawah Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) dan kedutaan Perancis di Malaysia.

"Berdasarkan maklumat Sistem Maklumat Keselamatan Makanan Malaysia (FoSIM) di bawah kementerian ini, tiada pengimportan bagi produk itu ke Malaysia, bermakna pengguna tidak perlu khuatir.

"Bagaimanapun, sebagai langkah berjaga-jaga, berkuat kuasa 11 Disember lalu, kementerian sudah mengenakan larangan import terhadap produk terbabit.

"Kementerian Kesihatan sentiasa peka terhadap perkara yang boleh mengancam kesihatan pengguna," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

## Bakteria *Salmonella*

Sebelum ini, media antarabangsa melaporkan LNS Lactalis Group dan pihak berkuasa kesihatan Perancis mengarahkan produk susu bayi keluaran syarikat itu ditarik balik daripada pasaran antarabangsa kerana disyaki terdapat pencemaran *Salmonella*, berikutan kes 26 kanak-kanak sakit di Perancis.

Mengulas lanjut, Noraini berkata, *Salmonella* adalah sejenis mikroorganisma pa-

togenik yang boleh menyebabkan cirit birit, demam dan kesakitan abdomen.

"Dalam kes tertentu, ia boleh menyebabkan kematian khususnya kepada golongan berisiko seperti bayi, orang tua atau seseorang mempunyai sistem imuniti yang rendah," katanya.

Beliau menasihatkan pengguna yang musykil berhubung isu keselamatan makanan menghubungi Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah atau Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri terdekat atau melalui laman sesawang <http://moh.spab.govmy> atau facebook Bahagian Keselamatan dan Kualiti Makanan.



Keratan akhbar BH  
25 Disember lalu.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 79

RUANGAN : SETEMPAT

Putrajaya

## Susu bayi Lactalis tak masuk Malaysia

Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) mengesahkan produk susu bayi keluaran syarikat LNS Lactalis Group yang disyaki terbabit dengan pencemaran Salmonella baru-baru ini tidak dieksport ke Malaysia.

Pengarah Kanan Keselamatan dan Kualiti Makanan KKM, Noraini Datuk Mohd Othman berkata, pengguna di negara ini tidak perlu khuatir kerana pihaknya sudah mendapatkan pengesahan daripada Jaringan Antarabangsa Pihak Berkuasa Keselamatan Makanan (INFOSAN) di bawah Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) dan Kedutaan Perancis di Malaysia mengenai isu berkenaan.

“Malah, berdasarkan maklumat daripada Sistem Maklumat Keselamatan Makanan Malaysia (FoSIM) di bawah KKM, tiada sebarang pengimportan bagi produk berkenaan ke negara ini,” katanya.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 12

RUANGAN : NEWS

## SALMONELLA FEARS

**'LACTALIS MILK NOT SOLD HERE'**

WHO, French embassy confirm French firm's infant formula not exported to Malaysia, says ministry

FAIRUZ MOHD SHAHAR  
PUTRAJAYA  
news@nst.com.my

**T**HE Health Ministry has given the assurance that French company Lactalis' infant formula milk, which is suspected to have been contaminated with salmonella bacteria, is not sold in Malaysia.

The ministry's food safety and quality senior director, Noraini Mohd Othman, said the World Health Organisation's (WHO) International Food Safety Authorities Network (Infosan) and the French embassy had confirmed

that the product was not exported to Malaysia.

"The ministry is aware of the news report titled 'France's Lactalis orders baby milk recall over salmonella fears', which was published by international media, France 24, on Dec 10.

"The report stated that LNS Lactalis Group and health authorities have ordered an international product recall because of fears of salmonella contamination.

"Consumers (in Malaysia) should not be worried as the ministry has received confirmation from Infosan and the French embassy that the product is not ex-

ported to the country," she said yesterday.

She said salmonella was a pathogenic microorganism that could cause a person to experience diarrhoea, fever and abdominal pain.

In some cases, Noraini said, salmonella infection could be fatal to babies, the elderly and those with a weak immune system.

She said according to the ministry's Food Safety Information System of Malaysia, the product



Noraini Mohd Othman

was not imported to the country.

"As a precautionary measure, the ministry has banned the import of such products to Malaysia effective Dec 11.

"The ministry is alert and concerned about matters that affect the health of consumers."

For details, contact the nearest district health office or state Health Department, or visit <http://moh.spab.gov.my> and its Facebook page, "Bahagian

Keselamatan dan Kualiti Makanan".

It was reported that Lactalis and health authorities had ordered the recall of millions of baby milk products around the world due to fears of salmonella bacteria contamination.

This followed 26 cases of children falling sick in France since Dec 1.

Company spokesman Michel Nalet told AFP that nearly 7,000 tonnes of the product could have been contaminated, but the company was unable to state how much of the product still remained in the market, had been consumed or was in stock.



**AKHBAR : THE STAR**  
**MUKA SURAT : 15**  
**RUANGAN : FIT FOR LIFE**

WALKING pneumonia is an informal term for a mild form of pneumonia.

It is most common in school-aged children and young adults, although people of all ages are at risk.

"Walking pneumonia is caused by a type of bacteria we classify as an atypical type of bacteria," said Dr Nipunie Rajapakse, a Mayo Clinic paediatric infectious diseases specialist.

"Most commonly, that bacteria is called *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*."

"Symptoms of walking pneumonia are similar to symptoms of pneumonia, but generally are on the milder side," she said.

"A child or a person with this infection can experience a cough, fever, runny nose, some difficulty with breathing, occasionally chest

## A milder form of pneumonia

pain or some shortness of breath as well."

Sometimes, walking pneumonia can progress to a more severe pneumonia that may require hospitalisation.

Dr Rajapakse said: "When we talk about pneumonia, we're referring to an infection in the lungs. Pneumonia can be caused by both bacteria and viruses and, in rare cases, fungi as well."

"But when we talk about pneumonia, we're really referring to an infection of the lung tissue."

"If you think you might have walking

pneumonia, or any type of pneumonia, it's a good idea to see your physician or your primary care provider."

"They will really be the best ones to do a physical examination and potentially order a chest X-ray – if they think that one is warranted – to determine whether you might have pneumonia or not."

Even though walking pneumonia is caused by bacteria, most people will completely recover without antibiotics.

If the symptoms are severe or you have other medical conditions such as asthma or a

weakened immune system, your healthcare provider may prescribe an antibiotic to help clear the infection.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers these tips to prevent the spread of infection:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Put your used tissue in the wastebasket.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow – not your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub. – Mayo Clinic News Network/Tribune News Service

**AKHBAR : THE STAR**  
**MUKA SURAT : 15**  
**RUANGAN : FIT FOR LIFE**

# How dangerous is pneumonia?

by LOH FOON FONG  
tarhealth@thestar.com.my

**SEKUTANG JAYA:** When people think of pneumonia, they tend to equate it with the elderly and those with weaker immune systems.

But can pneumonia equally affect the young and relatively healthy?

Sungai Buloh Hospital Infectious Disease head Datuk Dr Christopher Lee said that the organisms that cause pneumonia can be transmitted from person to person.

"The bugs that cause infection are spread. They are, in general, contagious, but some types are more contagious than others," he said.

Dr Lee added that viral pneumonia, such as influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and

Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS-CoV), tends to be more infectious.

RSV causes the same symptoms as a cold. It is common, contagious and most children would have had it by age two.

Although RSV infection is usually not a matter for serious concern, it can lead to pneumonia.

Meanwhile, SARS is a serious form of pneumonia.

Identified in 2003, the epidemic was believed to have started when the virus spread from small mammals to humans in China.

SARS is caused by a member of the coronavirus family of viruses – the same family that causes the common cold.

It can spread through coughs, sneezes and infected surfaces.

The infection causes severe breathing difficulty, and some-

times, death.

Symptoms are influenza-like and include fever, malaise, muscle pain (myalgia), headache, diarrhoea and shivering (rigors).

Severe cases often evolve rapidly, progressing to respiratory distress and requiring intensive care.

MERS, a viral respiratory illness, was first reported in Saudi Arabia in 2012 and has since spread to several other countries.

Most people infected with MERS-CoV develop severe acute respiratory illness, including fever, cough and shortness of breath, and many have died from the infection.

Dr Lee said that besides pneumonia caused by viruses, bacterial pneumonia can also be transmitted from one person to another, although they are less contagious than those caused by viruses.

He said that pneumonia is the

most frequent infection requiring hospitalisation in most developed and developing countries.

"There's also significant mortality and morbidity, as well as increase in use of healthcare services," he said.

According to Dr Lee, the presence of other medical conditions, such as HIV infection, diabetes, the long-term use of steroids and chronic lung diseases like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung fibrosis, will also determine how easily a person can catch pneumonia, as well as how severe the pneumonia will be.

Pneumonia is also more common among those above age 65, especially if they already have significant co-morbid conditions such as heart disease, chronic lung illnesses, diabetes, renal failure or

HIV, he added.

That is why it is important for those in the risk group, as well as everyone else, to adopt preventive measures against bacteria and viruses, Dr Lee said.

These measures include getting the appropriate vaccinations for infections caused by influenza and pneumococcus, adopting good personal hygiene and practising social distancing from those with respiratory infections.

If that is not possible, people should use the appropriate personal protective equipment and practise good hand hygiene, he said.

On whether there is any particular type of pneumonia linked to floods, Dr Lee said "not directly".

"Flood-related infections tend to be food and water-borne infections, as well as those linked to rodents," he said.



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 15

RUANGAN : FIT FOR LIFE

The Star, Wednesday 27 December 2017

# Fit For Life

## Pneumonia

An inflammation or infection in the lungs. Happens when the alveoli are filled up with inflammatory cells, compromising gas exchange.

**Causes**

- Usually bacterial infection and virus but fungus and parasites can cause it too.
- Can also result from exposure to chemical or physical substances.
- Affects all age groups. One of the most common cause of death in patients with chronic disease.
- Prognosis depends on type of pneumonia, complications and co-morbidity conditions in a patient.

**Symptoms**

- Cough with yellow or green or blood-stained sputum.
- High grade fever and chills.
- Shortness of breath and chest pain.
- Can be diagnosed from history of patient, physical findings, chest radiograph and sputum examination.

**Treatment**

- Bacterial pneumonia is treated with antibiotics.
- Vaccines are available for pneumococcal pneumonia.

## Classifications of pneumonia

**Community acquired pneumonia**

- > most common type of pneumonia.
- > organisms are found in the community.
- > bacteria organisms: Streptococcus pneumoniae, Haemophilus influenza Staphylococcus aureus and atypical organisms such as Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Chlamydia pneumoniae and Legionella pneumophila and Mycoplasma pneumoniae.
- > in Malaysia, Mycobacterium tuberculosis which causes tuberculosis is one of the most common cause of pneumonia in the community.
- > worldwide, Streptococcus pneumoniae is the most common cause of pneumonia.
- > viruses causing pneumonia: influenza virus, respiratory syncytial virus, adenovirus, parainfluenza virus and the H1N1 viruses.
- > other organisms: parasites such Toxoplasma gondii, Strongyloides stercoralis dan Ascaris.

**Hospital acquired pneumonia**

- > also known as nosocomial pneumonia.
- > occurs after 72 hours in hospital or after 72 hours or discharge from hospital due to other conditions.
- > causal organisms: Klebsiella, Pseudomonas, Enterobacter, Serratia and Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA).
- > more serious compared to community acquired pneumonia.
- > prolonged malnutrition, cardiac and lung diseases, and low gastric acid predispose a person to this pneumonia.

**Healthcare associated pneumonia**

- > affects residents of health facilities such as nursing homes.

**Pneumonia in the immunocompromised/ immunosuppressed**

- > affects people living with the human immunodeficiency virus (PLHIV) or those with acquired human immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV), patients receiving chemotherapy or steroids, chronic renal failure patients and cancer patients.

**Others**

- Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)**
- > very contagious, dangerous and can cause death.

**Aspiration pneumonia**

- > materials from the mouth or gastric contents are aspirated into the lungs.
- > besides aspirating toxic agents, anaerobic organisms can also be aspirated.
- > a main cause of pneumonia among patients with poor gag reflex (e.g. those who are comatose).

**Interstitial pneumonia**

- > involves the space between one alveolus and another.
- > usually caused by viruses or atypical bacteria.

**Chemical pneumonitis**

- > caused by chemical agents such as pesticides when inhaled.

It is due to a coronavirus SARS which was first discovered in China in 2002.

©The Star Graphics  
Source: MyHealth Portal, Health Ministry