

MEDIA RELEASE



7 April 2018

**Precautionary recall of
Creative Gourmet Frozen Pomegranate Arils 180g (all best before dates up to and including
21/03/20)
Sold only in Coles supermarkets**

Entyce Food Ingredients has actioned a precautionary recall of a relatively small batch of its **Creative Gourmet Frozen Pomegranate 180g** sold only through Coles supermarkets. All Creative Gourmet Pomegranate best before dates up to and including 21/03/20 are being recalled.

Last night, NSW Health notified Entyce Food Ingredients that they have identified locally acquired cases of hepatitis A who had consumed frozen pomegranates purchased from Coles supermarkets.

Genetic testing available to date on some of the cases has identified a unique strain of hepatitis A. It is important to note that Entyce products have not been directly linked at this stage. This recall is a precautionary step.

NSW Health is working with other States and Territories to determine if they also have locally acquired cases of hepatitis A with this strain - genotype 1B.

Director of Communicable Diseases at NSW Health, Dr Vicky Sheppeard said NSW Health is working with the NSW Food Authority to confirm if the infection can be definitively linked to the Pomegranate product sold throughout Coles.

All product tested to date has been cleared and has not revealed a link to Hepatitis A but the health and safety of our consumers is of paramount importance. Recognising any concern that may exist in the community, Entyce Food Ingredients is exercising abundant caution by activating this voluntary recall immediately.

Consumers can be confident that the recalled product Creative Gourmet Frozen Pomegranate Arils 180g is an isolated one and no other Creative Gourmet products are affected.

The recall affects less than one per cent of the Creative Gourmet fruit sold annually in Australia.

Consumers who have the recalled products in their freezers should return them to the place of purchase for a full refund.

About our testing process and sourcing of ingredients:

Consumer confidence and trust in our products is crucial. Entyce Food Ingredients undertakes a strict regime of testing to ensure the safety of the foods we sell. All batches underwent extensive testing by independent accredited laboratories – all of which cleared the product for traces of Hepatitis A, pesticides and other microbiological tests such as E.coli and coliforms. Our products are only released to consumers once testing comes back as clear, as was the case in this instance.

About this recall:

We are precautionarily recalling all batches of Creative Gourmet Frozen Pomegranate Arils 180g sold only within Coles supermarkets.

Consumers who may have any further questions can contact 1800 532 001 or email info@entyce.com.au

Any consumers who are concerned about their health should seek medical advice. More information on Hepatitis A can be found on the Australian Government Department of Health website at www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-songs-hepa-facts.htm

About Hepatitis A:

Hepatitis A is a viral disease that affects the liver. Anyone can be infected with hepatitis A if they have direct contact with food, drinks or objects contaminated by the faeces of an infected person. Symptoms may last for several weeks, but full recovery usually occurs. A single infection of hepatitis A does lead to lifelong immunity. You can fall ill any time between 15 and 50 days after catching the virus. The average incubation period for the virus is 28 days. For older children and adults, the symptoms include: fever, nausea, abdominal discomfort, dark urine and jaundice. Symptoms may last for several weeks, but full recovery usually occurs. For information:

www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/hepatitis-a

For all media enquiries: +61 (0)414 332 267