Alabama Department of Public Health Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT) Health Alert Network (HAN) March 28, 2023 Discontinuing use of Recalled Artificial Tears Products

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is investigating an outbreak of extensively drugresistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* associated with artificial tears. The FDA is warning consumers and clinicians to immediately stop using EzriCare Artificial Tears or Delsam Pharma's Artificial Tears due to potential bacterial contaminations that could result in blindness or death. Visit CDC's <u>outbreak website</u> for more information.

What Providers Should Know

- Patients should IMMEDIATELY STOP using the EzriCare and Delsam Pharma's Artificial Tears Products.
- CDC and FDA are advising that patients who have used these products and have any eye infection symptoms should contact their provider/doctor in a timely fashion.
 - Symptoms may include:
 - Yellow, green, or clear discharge from the eye
 - Eye pain or discomfort
 - Redness of the eye or eyelid
 - Feeling of something in your eye (foreign body sensation)
 - Increased sensitivity to light
 - Blurry vision
- At this time, there is no recommendation for testing of patients who have used this product and who are not experiencing any signs or symptoms of infection.
- Consumers can Report a Problem to: <u>Consumer Complaint Coordinators</u>
- At this time, only the two brands of artificial tears are being recalled. If additional brands are impacted, CDC will update the outbreak web page.

Information for healthcare providers

- For detailed outbreak information please refer inquirer to the CDC webpage: <u>Outbreak of</u> <u>Extensively Drug-resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa Associated with Artificial Tears | HAI | CDC</u>
- For FDA CDER Alert refer to: FDA warns consumers not to purchase or use EzriCare Artificial Tears due to potential contamination | FDA
- For CDC HAN refer to: <u>Health Alert Network (HAN) 00485</u> <u>Outbreak of Extensively Drug-</u> resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa Associated with Artificial Tears (cdc.gov)
- Additionally, providers should complete the following FDA adverse event reporting form: <u>FDA's</u> <u>MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting</u>
- For any additional questions or concerns, please contact the Healthcare-associated Infections Program Coordinator, Melanie Roderick, at Melanie.Roderick@adph.state.al.us