March 16, 2018

LOCAL ILLNESS LINKED TO NATIONAL SALMONELLA OUTBREAK INVOLVING KRATOM

Northeast Tri County Health District is recommending people do not consume the supplement kratom because it may contain salmonella. Currently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are investigating a salmonella outbreak that has infected forty (40) people and is linked to kratom in twenty-seven (27) states, including Washington State. One (1) case has been linked to Stevens County.

Kratom is a supplement derived from the leaves of a coffee tree in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. It can be used for a variety of reasons, commonly used for:

- Pain reliever
- Opioid substitute
- Stimulant
- Diarrhea

It can be ingested in a capsule form or whole leaf that is brewed into teas, chewed or smoked. Supplements that contain a variety of products may not list kratom as an ingredient. You may need to contact the manufacturer of the supplement to find out.
Salmonella infection is very serious, and anyone can get salmonella. Salmonella is a bacterial infection that infects the intestinal tract. Symptoms include:

- Severe diarrhea
- Bloody diarrhea
- Fever
- Chills
- Abdominal discomfort
- Occasionally vomiting

Those at highest risk for severe illness are:

- People with weakened immune systems
- Pregnant women
- Children younger than five (5) years old
- Older adults

If you are or believe you may be taking a supplement that contains kratom, discontinue use right away and monitor for signs and symptoms of salmonella. If you are taking kratom and believe you may have salmonella, contact your health care provider.

Additional Information can be found at:


CDC Multistate Outbreak for Salmonella: https://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/kratom-02-18/index.html

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