

Mom sues drug maker over son's death

by UPI

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. -- An Illinois woman whose infant son died in 2001 is suing the distributors of two over-the-counter cough and cold medicines. Dimitria Alvarez of Bloomington, Ill., has filed suit against McNeil-PPC Inc., maker of Infant Tylenol Cold Decongestant Plus Cough, and Walgreen Co., retailer of Infant Tylenol drops and Walgreen's Pediatric Drops-Cough Plus Cold, the Bloomington Pantagraph said Wednesday. Drug makers recently recalled infant cough and cold medicines over concerns about the risk to small children. An attorney for Alvarez said the woman's 4-month-old son, Devon, died in 2001 after he was given Infant Tylenol Drops and Walgreen's Pediatric Drops at the recommendation of the family's pediatrician. The newspaper said the cause of death was dextromethorphan intoxication. The lawsuit says that McNeil and Walgreen should have known of the hazards of dextromethorphan, that the two medicines had never been tested for use by infants and that there had been deaths associated with the ingredient.

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