

Chinese toothpaste in U.S. institutions

by UPI

ATLANTA - Hundreds of thousands of tubes of tainted toothpaste from China have been found in U.S. facilities for the mentally ill, juveniles and others.

The New York Times reported Thursday that the Chinese toothpaste was distributed in state institutions in Georgia and North Carolina.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration advised consumers to discard all Chinese toothpaste. The toothpaste distributed in hospitals for the mentally ill, juvenile detention facilities and some hospitals for the general population contains a poison used in some antifreeze, the Times reported.

South Carolina and Florida hospitals said they had received Chinese toothpaste from a distributor, the Times reported.

Originally, officials reported the tainted toothpaste would turn up in discount stores.

The toothpaste contains diethylene glycol, which has a "low but meaningful risk of toxicity and injury" for children and people with kidney or liver disease, the FDA said.

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