



The End Stage
Renal Disease
Network Of Texas

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**To: Bio-Med Technicians, Nurse Managers, Administrators,
Medical Directors**

From: Angie Wieler, Quality Improvement Coordinator

Date: August 21, 2008

RE: Morton Salt Additive - FDA Determination

After investigating the threat to health and safety of hemodialysis patients in relation to the additive known as Yellow Prussiate of Soda (YPS), an anti-clumping agent, the FDA have released the following conclusion:

“Conclusion

The contamination of salt with sodium ferrocyanide used to purify water for hemodialysis does not present a significant risk to hemodialysis patients. This conclusion is based on: the low concentration of ferrocyanide in water after softening and RO or deionization treatments, thus limiting patient exposure; the low toxicity of ferrocyanide reported in animal studies and human studies and case reports; and the stability of the iron and cyanide bond, which prevents the liberation of toxic moieties such as hydrogen cyanide.” – FDA

The ESRD Network of Texas, Inc. would like to thank the CDC, FDA, Morton Salt Company, and the renal community for their commitment to safe patient care by responding to this situation quickly. Cooperation and collaboration between all parties was outstanding in addressing a potential threat to patient health and safety.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Angie Wieler at 469-916-3806. Thank you.