



Manganese in Drinking Water Health Advisory for Bottle-fed Infants

To water users of: Kwetsa 7 Individual Water System

Do not use your tap water for preparing infant formulas

Your drinking water has tested above the newly established maximum acceptable concentration for manganese. Therefore, **do not use your drinking water to prepare formula for bottle-fed infants**. Use an alternate source of safe drinking water for preparing formula for infants such as bottled water or other safe source.

Health Canada has recently established a health-based guideline for manganese with a maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) of 0.12 milligrams/Litre. This guideline is based on the most vulnerable/sensitive population to manganese exposure which is infants and is meant to be protective of all Canadians. Infant's bodies are less able to regulate and remove manganese than adults or children.

Breastfed infants are generally thought to be at lower risk because manganese is expected to be managed by the mother's body. However, pregnant women who have concerns may wish to use a safe, alternate drinking water source or consult with a health professional.

Water that exceeds the maximum acceptable concentration for manganese can still be used for:

- Consumption (cooking and drinking) by non-vulnerable groups
- hand washing,
- bathing and showering.

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