

BARF World Recall Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Why are you recalling your product?

A: FDA regulations do not allow the presence of salmonella in cooked pet foods (canned or kibble). Even though we do not manufacture cooked foods, we are required to comply with the same standards. BARF World wants to fully cooperate with the FDA, and is complying with their regulations.

While the BARF World products have not been tested and found positive for Salmonella, the FDA is requesting that we recall all products that were made on the same day that a positive salmonella test occurred in the manufacturing plant.

Q: Does this mean that my pet is going to get salmonella poisoning?

A: Salmonella poisoning is a rare occurrence in dogs and cats, although the possibility does exist. They are highly resistant, but not immune to pathogens (bacteria) such as salmonella. This is much more of a concern for humans, as we are not equipped with the digestive tools to process raw meat. This is why we need to cook our meats, as well as wash our hands, utensils, and preparation area thoroughly. Dogs and cats, on the other hand, are equipped with much more potent stomach acid and a shorter digestive tract that allows raw food to process extremely quickly. For several thousand years, dogs and cats have eaten raw meat, spoiled meat, dirt, feces, grass, garbage, bones, and all sorts of bacteria-laden things. They are biologically designed to handle pathogens, as evidenced by the presence of salmonella in their feces.

Q: How could BARF World food have become contaminated?

A: Whether bought directly from the manufacturer, or purchased from your local grocer, raw meat (especially poultry) contains pathogens. The USDA has "tolerance levels" for salmonella, as it is a recognized fact of life. This means that poultry producers are allowed to have some bacteria in their products. Most raw meats contain low levels of pathogens most of the time. Again, the digestive system of a dog or cat is designed to handle a higher bacterial load than that of a human. Contamination with low levels of bacteria happens long before the ingredients arrive at the production facility for processing.

Q: What does all this mean for my pet and me?

A: Only you can determine if feeding a raw food diet is the right choice for your pet. All pet foods carry some risk. Many of the recalls from last year were for dry and canned pet foods, so there is no such thing as a bacteria-free, sterile food. Feeding a high-quality diet, made with superior ingredients, as well as following all recommendations pertaining to storage, temperature, and hygiene can reduce these risks.

Q: *How will I know if my pet has contracted salmonella?*

A: It is unlikely that your pet will contract salmonella. However, it is possible. Puppies, seniors, and dogs with compromised immune systems are the most likely to exhibit symptoms. Symptoms of salmonella include vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, loss of interest in food, dehydration, weakness, and fever. If your pet exhibits any of these symptoms, please contact your veterinarian.

Q: *How can I avoid Salmonella infection?*

A: Like it states on our BARF Diet bags, make sure to handle your pet's food like you would any raw meat product. Wash your hands, utensils, food bowls and working surfaces with hot soapy water after coming into contact with raw meat. Also, make sure to use a plastic bag or plastic glove when coming into contact with your pet's stools as salmonella may be present. As an added precaution, avoid allowing your pet to lick you right after eating.

Q: *How can I tell if my product is part of the recall?*

A: Only the BARF Lamb Patties and the BARF Combo Patties produced on July 27th, 2012 are being recalled. The bag will have a white sticker towards the top, and the sticker will display a Use By date of 07/27/2013. If you have recalled product at your home, please dispose of the product in a safe manner (i.e. in a securely covered trash receptacle) and contact Christopher Hampson at 1-866-282-2273 for a replacement or a refund.

Q: *What should I feed my pet in place of the recalled product?*

A: If you have recalled product at your home, please dispose of the product in a safe manner (i.e. in a securely covered trash receptacle) and contact Christopher Hampson at 1-866-282-2273 for a replacement or a refund. In the meantime, you can go ahead and continue feeding any other bags of the BARF Diet that you have in stock.

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Visit our website: www.barfworld.com