

## **Hepatitis A Outbreak in 5 States: Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona and California**

*The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state and local officials are investigating a multi-state outbreak of Hepatitis A illnesses potentially associated with a frozen food blend. We are moving quickly to learn as much as possible and prevent additional people from becoming ill. We recognize that people will be concerned about this outbreak, and we will continue to provide updates and advice.*

### **What is the Problem and What is Being Done About It?**

The FDA, the CDC, and state and local officials are investigating a multi-state outbreak of Hepatitis A illnesses potentially associated with **Townsend Farms Organic Anti-Oxidant Blend**, a frozen blend containing pomegranate seed mix.

As of May 31, 2013, 30 people infected with Hepatitis A have been reported from 5 states: Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, and California.

Through interviews with ill patients, the CDC has reported that 11 of 17 patients interviewed thus far recalled eating Townsend Farms Organic Anti-Oxidant Blend. FDA has begun an inspection of the processing facilities of Townsend Farms of Fairview, Oregon. The FDA is also developing a protocol to test berries for the Hepatitis A virus (HAV), and will be testing samples related to the outbreak, including the frozen blend for the presence of HAV. The FDA is working closely with the CDC and state and local agencies and will provide updates as soon as they become available.