

Johnson & Johnson suspends talc sales worldwide

CE Noticias Financieras English

August 12, 2022 Friday

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Length: 276 words

Body

The company is currently dealing with thousands of lawsuits linking its use to the development of cancer.

NEW YORK - The pharmaceutical company **Johnson & Johnson** announced that in 2023 it **will discontinue** the sale of its baby powder **worldwide**, two years after doing so in the U.S. and Canada, beset by thousands of complaints about the safety of the product.

In a brief note this Aug. 11, 2022, the company said it has made the "business decision" to **replace talc with corn starch** in this infant product after receiving some 38,000 complaints linking its long-term use to the development of cancer, although it continued to deny that this is the cause.

Talcum powder with asbestos

In late 2018, information surfaced that **Johnson & Johnson** had known for decades that **its talcum powder contained asbestos**, a mineral with a composition and characters similar to asbestos and with harmful health effects.

Since then, the company has faced **thousands of lawsuits** accusing the manufacturer of contributing to the development of **ovarian cancer** in consumers, a claim the company **denies** and which each year has led it to spend millions of dollars in litigation.

"Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged. **We stand firmly behind** the decades of scientific analysis from medical experts around the world confirming that **Johnson's** baby powder is safe, does **not contain asbestos and does not cause cancer**," the firm said in a statement.

The company faces other legal problems in the U.S. and agreed earlier this year to pay **millions of dollars to several states**, along with other major drug distributors, for its responsibility in the opioid crisis. **EFE**

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Johnson & Johnson to stop selling talcum powder

Saudi Gazette - Business

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Body

WASHINGTON — **Johnson & Johnson** (J&J) will stop making and selling its talc-based baby powder around the world from next year.

The announcement comes more than two years after the healthcare giant ended sales of the product in the US.

J&J faces tens of thousands of lawsuits from women who allege its talcum powder contained asbestos and caused them to develop ovarian cancer.

But the company reiterated its view that decades of independent research show the product is safe to use.

"As part of a worldwide portfolio assessment, we have made the commercial decision to transition to an all cornstarch-based baby powder portfolio," it said in a statement.

The firm added that cornstarch-based baby powder is already sold in countries around the world.

At the same time J&J reiterated its position that its baby powder is safe to use: "Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged."

"We stand firmly behind the decades of independent scientific analysis by medical experts around the world that confirms talc-based **Johnson's** baby powder is safe, does not contain asbestos, and does not cause cancer," it said.

In 2020, J&J said it would stop selling its talc baby powder in the US and Canada because demand had fallen in the wake of what it called "misinformation" about the product's safety amid a number of legal cases.

At the time the firm said it would continue to sell its talc-based baby powder in the UK and the rest of the world.

The company faces lawsuits from consumers and their survivors who claim J&J's talc products caused cancer due to contamination with asbestos.

Talc is mined from the earth and is found in seams close to that of asbestos, which is a material known to cause cancer.

A 2018 investigation by the Reuters news agency claimed that J&J knew for decades that asbestos was present in its talc products.

Johnson & Johnson to stop selling talcum powder

Reuters said that internal company records, trial testimony and other evidence showed that from at least 1971 to the early 2000s, J&J's raw talc and finished powders sometimes tested positive for small amounts of asbestos.

In response to evidence of asbestos contamination presented in court rooms, media reports and to US lawmakers, the firm has repeatedly denied the allegations.

In October, J&J created a subsidiary, LTL Management, assigning its talc claims to it. It later placed it into bankruptcy, which paused the pending lawsuits.

Before the bankruptcy filing, the company faced costs from \$3.5bn (£2.87bn) in verdicts and settlements, including one in which 22 women were awarded a judgement of more than \$2bn.

In April, a shareholder proposal calling for an end to global sales of the talc baby powder failed.

Johnson's Baby Powder has been sold for almost 130 years and became a symbol of the company's family-friendly image.

Baby powder is used for preventing nappy rash and for cosmetic uses, including as a dry shampoo. — BBC

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Johnson & Johnson to withdraw baby powder from global market

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Body

In 2017, a Los Angeles court ordered **Johnson & Johnson** to pay \$417 million by holding it liable for terminal ovarian cancer diagnosed in a 63-year-old woman. The company was also condemned for failing to adequately warn of the risk associated with the use of its talc-containing products.

The pharmaceutical company announced on Thursday 11 that in 2023 it will suspend the sale of its baby talcum powder worldwide, two years after doing so in the United States and Canada, prompted by thousands of complaints about the safety of the product.

In a brief note, the company said it has made the "business decision" to replace talc with corn starch in this infant product after receiving some 38,000 complaints linking its long-term use to the development of cancer, although the company continued to deny that is the cause.

In late 2018, information surfaced that **Johnson & Johnson** had known for decades that its talcum powder contained asbestos, a mineral with a composition and characters similar to asbestos and with harmful health effects.

Since then, **Johnson & Johnson** has faced thousands of lawsuits accusing the manufacturer of contributing to the development of ovarian cancer in female consumers, something the company denies and which each year has led it to spend millions of dollars on litigation.

In 2017, a Los Angeles court ordered the drugmaker to pay \$417 million by holding it responsible for a terminal ovarian cancer diagnosed in a 63-year-old woman. The company was also condemned for failing to adequately warn of the risk associated with the use of its talc-containing products.

"Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged. We stand firmly behind the decades of scientific analysis from medical experts around the world confirming that **Johnson's** baby powder is safe, does not contain asbestos and does not cause cancer," the firm stated.

The company faces other legal problems in the US and agreed in early 2022 to pay millions of dollars to several states, together with other major drug distributors, for its responsibility in the opioid crisis.

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Johnson & Johnson to stop selling baby powder worldwide

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Body

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) announced Thursday that in 2023 it will suspend the sale of its baby powder worldwide. This measure was already implemented in the U.S. and Canada after receiving some 38,000 lawsuits linking its long-term use to the development of cancer, although it continued to deny that this is the cause. In a brief note, the company said it has made a "business decision" to replace talc with cornstarch.

'Does J&J talc have asbestos'

Reports surfaced in late 2018 that J&J had known for decades that its talcum powder contained asbestos, a mineral with a composition and characters similar to asbestos and harmful health effects. Since then, the company has faced thousands of lawsuits accusing the manufacturer of contributing to the development of ovarian cancer in consumers, a claim the company denies and which each year has led it to spend millions of dollars in litigation. "Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged. We stand firmly behind the decades of scientific analysis from medical experts around the world confirming that **Johnson's** baby powder is safe, does not contain asbestos and does not cause cancer," the firm said in a statement. The company faces other legal problems in the United States and agreed earlier this year to pay millions of dollars to several states, together with other large drug distributors, for its responsibility in the opioid crisis.

With information from EFE

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Johnson & Johnson suspends sale of baby powder worldwide

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Body

New York - The pharmaceutical company **Johnson & Johnson** announced that in 2023, it will suspend the sale of its baby powder worldwide, two years after doing so in the U.S. and Canada, harassed by thousands of complaints about the safety of the product.

In a brief note, the company said it has made the "business decision" to replace talc with corn starch in this infant product after receiving some 38,000 complaints linking its long-term use to the development of cancer, although it continued to deny that this is the cause.

In late 2018, reports surfaced that J&J had known for decades that its talcum powder contained asbestos, a mineral with a composition and characters similar to asbestos and with harmful health effects.

Since then, J&J has faced thousands of lawsuits accusing the manufacturer of contributing to the development of ovarian cancer in consumers, a claim the company denies and which each year has led it to spend millions of dollars in litigation.

"Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged. We stand firmly behind the decades of scientific analysis from medical experts around the world confirming that Johnson's baby powder is safe, does not contain asbestos and does not cause cancer," the firm said in a statement.

The company faces other legal problems in the U.S. and agreed earlier this year to pay millions of dollars to several states, along with other major drug distributors, for its responsibility in the opioid crisis.

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Johnson & Johnson to change ingredients in cancer-linked product

Daily Nation (Kenya)

August 15, 2022 Monday

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Length: 571 words

Byline: Angela Oketch

Body

Though some countries banned the use of **Johnson & Johnson** (J&J) powder two years ago, citing health risks, the products are still available on Kenyan supermarket shelves. **Johnson's** Baby Powder and Shower to Shower are some of the products made by the company and can be found in supermarkets and beauty shops. Baby powder is used to prevent nappy and heat rash. Some women also use it for genital hygiene to absorb odour and moisture. In 2016, the popular baby powder was linked to ovarian cancer, and J&J was ordered to pay out \$4.7 billion (Sh561 billion at current exchange rates) to 22 women who had claimed that asbestos in the company's talcum powder products caused them to develop ovarian cancer. Talcum powder After the court ruling, most countries, including the United States stopped using the product in 2020, but it is still being used in Kenya. The product has been at the centre of tens of thousands of lawsuits filed by customers. On Thursday, J&J released a statement clarifying that it is shifting from talcum powder ingredients to cornstarch in all the baby powder it sells around the world. It said it has started producing cornstarch and that by 2023 all the talc baby powder will be out of the market. It said it is already selling baby powder using cornstarch in some countries around the world, though it is not easy to tell, as the new ingredients are not indicated on bottles. Talc or talcum powder is a component in beauty products made of magnesium, silicon and oxygen.

It is also known to contain traces of asbestos, a substance that causes cancer. Also read: **Johnson & Johnson** ordered to pay \$417m in cancer lawsuit J&J announced that the decision to move to cornstarch was part of a continuous evaluation of its portfolio and would help simplify its product offerings and meet "evolving global trends". It also reiterated its position on the safety of baby powder, saying: "We stand firmly behind the decades of independent scientific analysis by medical experts around the world that confirms talc-based **Johnson's** Baby Powder is safe, does not contain asbestos, and does not cause cancer." Even though the company maintains that the product is safe, evidence on the safety of talc is not conclusive. The International Agency for Research on Cancer, which is part of the World Health Organization, classifies talc as "possibly carcinogenic". J&J's decision to use cornstarch is understandable, said Alex Scranton, director of science and research at the environmental advocacy group Women's Voices for the Earth. "Easy to obtain" Cornstarch was inexpensive, easy to obtain, and free from talc's 'toxic profile' and concerns about asbestos contamination," said Ms Scranton, who was part of a campaign to pressure J&J to withdraw the products from shelves worldwide. But a large study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) found no link between ovarian cancer and the use of talcum powder in the genital area, citing data from more than 250,000 women. In the study led by Katie O'Brien of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, researchers synthesised data from 1987 to 2017 and found that among the 252,745 women followed for a median period of 11.2 years, 2,168 developed ovarian cancer. No statistically significant association was found when comparing women who had used powder and those who had not. Nor was any significant link found to frequency or length of use.

Johnson & Johnson to change ingredients in cancer-linked product

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Johnson & Johnson to stop all sales of talc baby powder

The Times (London)

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Section: NEWS; Pg. 32

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Byline: Dominic Walsh

Body

Almost a century after the first recorded cases of the harmful effects of talc, **Johnson & Johnson** is to stop selling talc-based baby powder globally from next year.

Its decision to withdraw the product entirely comes more than two years after it stopped sales of talcbased **Johnson's** Baby Powder in the United States and Canada in the face of tens of thousands of lawsuits from consumers.

At the time, the pharmaceuticals company claimed that it was ending sales in North America because of a fall in demand resulting from what it called "misinformation" about the powder's safety.

In a statement yesterday **Johnson & Johnson** said: "As part of a worldwide portfolio assessment, we have made the commercial decision to transition to an all cornstarch-based baby powder portfolio."

The company said that cornstarch- based baby powder was already sold in countries around the world. It faces about 38,000 lawsuits from consumers and their surviving relatives claiming its talc products caused cancer because of contamination with asbestos.

Talc and asbestos are naturally occurring minerals that are often found in close proximity. Talc, which is composed of magnesium, silicon, oxygen and hydrogen, is sought in cosmetics for its capacity to absorb moisture, prevent caking and improve the feel of a product.

The US Food & Drug Administration continues to research the potential contamination of talc with asbestos, noting that questions had been raised since the 1970s.

J&J denies the allegations, saying that decades of scientific testing and regulatory approvals have shown its talc to be safe and free of asbestos.

The company reiterated that stance this week, insisting: "Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged. We stand behind the decades of independent scientific analysis by medical experts that confirms talc-based **Johnson's** Baby Powder is safe, does not contain asbestos and does not cause cancer."

Johnson & Johnson to stop all sales of talc baby powder

J&J dates back to 1860, the year before the American Civil War began, and it started selling talc in 1894. **Johnson's** Baby Powder became a symbol of the company's familyfriendly image and it later described its baby products division as the company's "#1 Asset".

An investigation by Reuters in 2018 found that J&J had known for decades that asbestos, a carcinogen, was present in its talc products. Internal company records, trial testimony and other evidence showed that from at least 1971 to the early 2000s J&J's raw talc and finished powders sometimes tested positive for small amounts of asbestos. In court J&J lawyers stated that asbestos was detected only in talc intended for industrial use.

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Johnson & Johnson suspends sale of its talcum powder worldwide

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Body

New York, Aug. 11. The pharmaceutical company **Johnson & Johnson** announced Thursday that in 2023 it will suspend the sale of its baby talcum powder worldwide, two years after doing so in the U.S. and Canada harassed by thousands of complaints about the safety of the product.

In a brief note, the company said it has made the "business decision" to replace talc with corn starch in this infant product after receiving some 38,000 complaints linking its long-term use to the development of cancer, although it continued to deny that this is the cause.

Reports surfaced in late 2018 that J&J had known for decades that its talcum powder contained asbestos, a mineral with asbestos-like composition and characters and harmful health effects.

Since then, J&J has faced thousands of lawsuits accusing the manufacturer of contributing to the development of ovarian cancer in consumers, a claim the company denies and which each year has led it to spend millions of dollars in litigation.

"Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged. We stand firmly behind the decades of scientific analysis from medical experts around the world confirming that **Johnson's** baby powder is safe, does not contain asbestos and does not cause cancer," the firm said in a statement.

The company faces other legal problems in the U.S. and agreed earlier this year to pay millions of dollars to several states, along with other major drug distributors, for its responsibility in the opioid crisis. EFE
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Johnson & Johnson to stop selling baby powder after massive consumer complaints

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Body

Johnson & Johnson will stop selling its baby powder products from next year worldwide, according to information gathered by EFE.

It is worth noting that two years ago this product was no longer sold in stores in the United States and Canada, after thousands of consumers denounced that the talcum powder was harmful to their health.

In this sense, the pharmaceutical company announced its "commercial decision" to substitute baby powder for corn starch in this baby product, after 38,000 claims related to the fact that its long-term use leads to cancer. **Johnson & Johnson** denied that this is the cause.

EFE recalls that at the end of 2018, information was leaked about the presence of asbestos, a mineral with a composition and characters similar to asbestos and with harmful health effects, inside talc; and **Johnson & Johnson** was aware of it.

Since then, J&J has faced 38,000 lawsuits accusing them of contributing to the development of ovarian cancer in consumers, an allegation the firm rejects and which each year has led it to spend millions of dollars in litigation.

"Our position on the safety of our cosmetic talc remains unchanged. We strongly defend the decades of scientific analysis by medical experts around the world that confirm that **Johnson's** baby powder is safe, does not contain asbestos and does not cause cancer," said **Johnson & Johnson**.

Finally, it should be noted that J&J faces other legal problems in the United States and agreed earlier this year to pay millions of dollars to several states, together with other major drug distributors, for its responsibility in the opioid crisis.

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Johnson & Johnson to end global sales of talc-based baby powder

The Irish Times

August 13, 2022 Saturday

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Section: FINANCE; Pg. 18

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Body

Johnson & Johnson will stop selling talc-based baby powder globally in 2023, the drugmaker has said, more than two years after it ended US sales of a product that drew thousands of consumer safety lawsuits.

"As part of a worldwide portfolio assessment, we have made the commercial decision to transition to an all cornstarch-based baby powder portfolio," it said, adding that cornstarch-based baby powder is already sold in countries around the world.

'Misinformation' In 2020, J&J announced it would stop selling its talc baby powder in the United States and Canada because demand had fallen in the wake of what it called "misinformation" about the product's safety amid a barrage of legal challenges.

The company faces about 38,000 lawsuits from consumers and their survivors claiming its talc products caused cancer due to contamination with asbestos, a known carcinogen. J&J denies the allegations, saying decades of scientific testing and regulatory approvals have shown its talc to be safe and asbestos-free.

On Thursday, it reiterated the statement as it announced the discontinuation of the product.

J&J spun off subsidiary LTL Management in October, assigned its talc claims to it and immediately placed it into bankruptcy, pausing the pending lawsuits.

Those suing have said **Johnson & Johnson** should have to defend itself against the lawsuits, while defendants of J&J and the bankrupt subsidiary process say it is an equitable way to compensate claimants.

Ben Whiting, an attorney with the plaintiffs firm Keller Postman, said because the lawsuits are paused in bankruptcy, the company's sales decision won't immediately impact them. But if a federal appellate court allows the cases to move forward, the consumers could try to use **Johnson & Johnson's** decision to pull the products as evidence, Mr Whiting said. "If these cases were to go again, then it's a very big deal," Whiting said.

Faced costs Before the bankruptcy filing, the company faced costs from \$3.5 billion (\$3.4 billion) in verdicts and settlements, including one in which 22 women were awarded a judgment of more than \$2 billion, according to bankruptcy court records.

A shareholder proposal calling for an end to global sales of the talc baby powder failed in April. A 2018 Reuters investigation found that J&J knew for decades that asbestos, a carcinogen, was present in its talc products. - Reuters

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Johnson & Johnson to end global sales of talc-based baby powder

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