

# Removes Saccharin from Safe List

Commissioner Frederick P. McGinnis of the Department of Health and Social Services warned Alaskans today that the Food and Drug Administration had removed saccharin from the generally recognized as safe list of food additives and issued an interim, provisional regulation restricting use of the artificial sweetener while additional safety reviews are being completed:

This order is in accord with

the National Academy of Sciences Research Council recommendation of no more than one gram per day for the average adult.

One gram of saccharin is equal to seven 12 oz. bottles of the small saccharin tablets (each comparable to one teaspoon of sugar).

This order requires saccharin disclosure on labels of all beverages, foods and food mixes in which use is permitted.

The F.D.A., with the assistance of the National Academy, will continue to weigh the evidence as it becomes available and should experimental findings demonstrate that saccharin involves a risk to public health, the F.D.A. will withdraw approval for use of saccharin in foods.

Commissioner McGinnis indicated that "should such an action be taken, the Department of Health and Social Services will notify Alaskans."