Regulation of Jelly Confectionery Containing Konjac

蒟蒻果凍的規管

Food Safety Seminar for Trade 4 December 2025 食物安全研討會 2025年12月4日





Konjac as ingredient

- Jelly confectionery products in the market may contain the ingredient konjac
- Konjac
 - is assigned the identification number "425" under the International Numbering System for Food Additives
 - also known as conjac, konnyaku, yam flour or glucomannan
- Codex considers konjac a safe food additive
 - usually used as a thickener, emulsifier, stabilizer, etc.
- Compared with gelatin, konjac jelly has a much firmer texture, is less likely to dissolve, and retains its shape even when it is sucked

蒟蒻作為食物配料

- 市面上一些果凍產品可能含有蒟蒻成分
- 蒟蒻
 - ▶ 食物添加劑國際編碼系統中,識別編號為 "425"
 - > 又稱魔芋或葡甘露聚醣
- 食品法典委員會認為蒟蒻是一種安全的食物添加劑
 - > 常用作增稠劑、乳化劑、穩定劑等
- 蒟蒻果凍比明膠果凍較為結實且不易溶化,即使被吸食也能保持形狀





Product design

- Konjac-containing jelly confectionery products come in various sizes and shapes, including cups, pouches, and strips
- Mini-cup jellies are encased in semi-rigid, dome-shaped mini-cups or mini-capsules
- Consumed by
 - Sucking the entire jelly out of the cup in a single bite or
 - Applying pressure to the mini-cup or minicapsule to squeeze the confectionery into the mouth

產品設計

- 蒟蒻果凍產品有各種大小和形狀,包括杯裝、 袋裝和條狀
- 迷你杯裝果凍裝在中等硬度的半球形迷你杯或 迷你膠囊中
- 食用方式
 - 通過吸啜將整個果凍從杯中一口吸出或
 - > 擠壓迷你杯或迷你膠囊,將果凍擠入口中



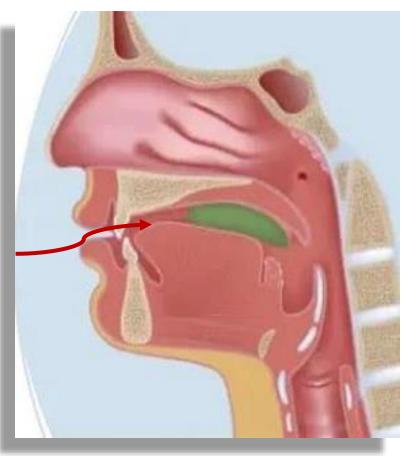






Choking risk of mini- 迷你杯裝蒟蒻果凍 cup konjac jelly 的哽噎風險

- Texture
 - Smooth and slippery
- Way of consumption
 - Suck out of mini-sized cup in one piece
- Konjac jelly slides along the tongue towards the back of the mouth
 - Difficult to control its direction, position, and time needed to coordinate swallowing action
 - > Easily bypass the teeth
 - Children and the elderly may have a higher risk of choking



- 質地
 - > 表面光滑
- 食用方式
 - > 一口從迷你杯中吸出
- 蒟蒻果凍沿著舌頭滑向口腔 後部
 - 難以控制其方向、位置和協調吞咽動作的時間
 - > 不經咀嚼
 - ▶ 兒童和老人可能有較高哽噎 風險



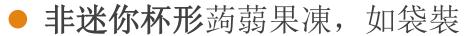


Other konjac jellies

- Non-mini-cup konjac jellies e.g. those in pouches and sachets
 - Usually consume in multiple bites
 - By squeezing the contents out through a small opening or
 - By pushing the contents out without the need to suck from the container
- Larger-sized or non-prepackaged konjac jellies
 - Typically consumed with a spoon
 - Without the need to suck from the container
 - Reduce the choking risk

其他蒟蒻果凍





- > 通常分多口食用
- > 通過包裝上的小開口擠出 或
- > 將果凍推出,無需從容器中吸食
- 較大尺寸或非預先包裝蒟蒻果凍
 - > 通常用茶匙食用
 - > 無需從容器中吸食
 - > 減低哽噎風險









Risk assessment

- Konjac is a safe food additive
- Improper consumption of mini-cup konjac jellies can increase the choking risk, especially to children, due to their unique product design and firm texture
- Fatal incidents related to the ingestion of mini-cup konjaccontaining jelly confectionery products have been reported from time to time in different parts of the world

風險評估

- 蒟蒻本身是安全的食物添加劑
- 由於迷你杯裝蒟蒻果凍結實的質地 和其獨特的產品設計,不當的食用 方法可能會造成哽噎風險,尤其是 對兒童而言
- 世界各地也不時出現關於食用含有 蒟蒻成分的迷你杯裝果凍產品而導 致致命事件





Regulatory proposal

- Factors taken into account
 - Potential choking risks associated with the consumption of mini-cup konjac-containing jelly confectionery products;
 - Regulatory practices of major jurisdictions concerning such products; and
 - Risk assessment results
- Amend the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap. 132W)
 - Strengthen regulation of prepacakged konjaccontaining jelly confectionery

規管建議

- 考慮的因素
 - 食用含蒟蒻成分的果凍產品可能帶來的哽噎 風險;
 - > 主要經濟體對此類產品的規管做法;及
 - 風險評估結果

- 修訂《食物及藥物(成分組合及標籤)規例》(第132W章)
 - > 加強對預先包裝蒟蒻果凍的規管





Consultation

- Expert Committee on Food Safety
- LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
- Advisory Council on Food and Environmental Hygiene
- Food trade
- > Public

諮詢

- > 食物安全專家委員會
- ▶ 立法會食物安全及環境衞生事務 委員會
- > 食物及環境衞生諮詢委員會
- > 食物業界
- > 公眾





Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment) Regulation 2025

- Gazetted on 18 July 2025
- Passed by the Legislative Council through the negative vetting procedure on 20 August 2025
- Will take effect on 1 April 2026
 - stipulates the composition and labelling requirements for prepackaged jelly confectionery containing konjac

《2025年食物及藥物 (成分組合及標籤) (修訂)規例》

- 於2025年7月18日刊憲
- 於2025年8月20日透過先訂立後審 議程序獲立法會通過
- 將在2026年4月1日實施
 - 對含有蒟蒻成分的預先包裝果凍的成分及標籤要求作出規定





Amendment (1) --Composition requirement

- Jelly confectionery that is prepackaged food and that is packed in a mini-cup-shaped container must not contain konjac if the height or width of the container does not exceed 45mm
 - Mini-cup konjac-containing jelly confectionery with a height or width not exceeding 45mm will be prohibited for sale in the local market

修訂(1) - 成分要求

- 屬預先包裝食物的果凍,如是以高度或闊度不超過45毫米的迷你杯狀容器包裝的,則不得含有蒟蒻
 - ➢ 高度或闊度不超過45毫米的迷你杯裝蒟蒻果 凍將禁止在本地市場上出售







Measurement on the height of mini-cup

迷你杯高度的量度方法

- Height: the maximum internal vertical distance from the base to the opening
- 高度:從杯底至杯口之間的最 大內部垂直距離







Measurement on the width of mini-cup

 Width: the inner diameter or the maximum inner width of the opening

内直徑 Inner diameter



迷你杯闊度的量度方法

 闊度:杯口的內直徑或最大內 部闊度

最大內部闊度 Maximum inner width





Non-mini-cup konjac jelly

 Composition requirement and the related sale prohibition do not apply to non-minicup konjac-containing jelly confectionery

非迷你杯裝的蒟蒻果凍

成分要求及相關禁止銷售規定不 適用於含蒟蒻成分的非迷你杯裝 果凍







- Should comply with the specific labelling requirements stipulated in Schedule 2 of the Amendment Regulation
- 須符合《修訂規例》附表2訂明的 特定標籤規定





Amendment (2) --Labelling requirement

修訂(2) - 標籤要求

- The outermost layer of packaging for sale of jelly confectionery that is prepackaged food and that contains konjac must be clearly and legibly marked with the words --
- 如屬預先包裝食物的、含有蒟蒻的果凍,其銷售包裝的最外層須清楚可閱地標明下述字樣一

- (a) Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.
- (b) 注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。





Amendment (2) --Labelling requirement

- The words must be marked in a conspicuous position on the packaging and be—
 - (a) underlined and marked—
 - (i) in dark colour on a light-coloured background; **or**
 - (ii) in light colour on a dark-coloured background; **or**
 - (b) marked in red text on a white or yellow background

- 修訂(2) 標籤要求
- 上述字樣須標明在有關包裝上的顯 眼處,並須 —
 - (a) 畫上底線,並一
 - (i) 以深色字印在淺色底上此方 式標明; **或**
 - (ii) 以淺色字印在深色底上此方 式標明; **或**
 - (b) 以紅色字印在白色或黃色底上 此方式標明。





Examples of warning statements

警告字句的例子

 Underlined dark-coloured text on a light-coloured background: 以深色字印在淺色底上,並在字下 劃上底線:

注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。

Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.

<u>Or</u>

<u>或</u>

 Underlined light-coloured text on a dark-coloured background: 以淺色字印在深色底上,並在字下劃上底線:

注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。

Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.





Warning statements

警告字句

Red text on a yellow background:

●以紅色字印在黄色底上:

注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。

Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.

Or

或

Red text on a white background:

•以紅色字印在白色底上:

注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。

Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.





Elements of legible warning label

可閱的警告標籤的元素

- Suitable font size
- A font size of at least 3 mm in height for English letter and Chinese characters is recommended
- 字體大小適中
 - ▶ 建議使用高度最小達3毫米的英 文字母和中文字

Example:

例子:

注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。 □ \$3 毫米

Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.





Elements of legible warning label

可閱的警告標籤的元素

Enough spacing

●間距充足

注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。

Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.



注意:勿一口吞食,長者及兒童須在監護下食用。 Caution: Do not swallow whole. Elderly and children must consume under supervision.





Elements of legible warning label

可閱的警告標籤的元素

- Appropriate font type
- Suitable printing technology
- Nonreflective printing surface

- 適當的字款
- 合適的印刷技術
- 使用不反光印刷表面





Trade guidelines and FAQs

- Prepared guidelines on the requirements under the amended Cap. 132W
- Technical meeting was held to introduce the draft guideline
- Upload the trade guidelines and FAQs onto the CFS website for the trade's reference

業界指引及 常見問題

- 就修訂後第132W章的規管要求,制定業界指引
- 舉行技術會議介紹指引擬稿
- 上載業界指引及常見問題至 食安中心網站,供業界參考





END 完



