Allergic Reactions to Carmine

9/11/98 – A girl had severe asthma-like symptoms, swelling, and hives after eating ice cream or Ocean Spray ruby red grapefruit juice containing carmine.

12/30/98 – A woman broke out in hives after eating Good & Plenty candy colored with carmine.

3/15/99 – A woman suffered numerous, increasingly severe reactions to foods (such as Skittles candy, Trader Joe’s sundried tomato pasta, or Ben & Jerry’s Cherry Garcia ice cream) containing carmine. Symptoms include swollen eyes, throat, and lips; hives, nausea, and difficulty breathing. She sought treatment at the emergency room a half dozen times and now carries an EpiPen.

3/17/99 – A doctor treated a patient for an itchy throat and swollen eyes. The symptoms began forty minutes after the woman ate strawberry-flavored Yoplait yogurt.

7/6/99 – After eating foods containing carmine, a girl suffered from stomach pains and a severe rash.

8/10/99 – A woman drank pink lemonade, then suffered dizziness, nausea, and a racing pulse.

9/24/99 – A woman suffered a reaction immediately after eating pasta colored with carmine. Her tongue swelled and she broke out in hives before seeking medical attention. She was treated with steroids and must now carry an EpiPen.

6/15/00 – A woman went into anaphylactic shock after eating a vitamin supplement colored with carmine.

8/15/00 – A woman suffered reactions to several foods (Ocean Spray ruby red grapefruit juice, imitation crab, and tomato sauce) containing carmine.

8/22/00 – After consuming several different products (including frozen lasagna, Dannon cherry yogurt, and Ocean Spray grapefruit juice) containing carmine on different occasions, a woman went into anaphylactic shock, suffering from swelling, hives, and difficulty breathing. She now carries an EpiPen at all times.

8/24/00 – After eating Dannon yogurt and Vons frozen fruit bars, a woman came down with symptoms including swollen eyes and nasal congestion.

11/9/00 – A man sought treatment on two occasions for a racing, irregular heartbeat after eating candy or drinking Fruitopia juice colored with carmine.

12/11/00 – A nurse suffered a reaction after eating Dannon strawberry yogurt, with symptoms
including severe itching, swollen eyes and throat, and stomach pains. She treated herself with Benadryl and later saw an allergist.

1/25/01 – A nurse reported a patient who suffered from hives (treated at the emergency room) after eating a variety of foods containing carmine.

2/5/01 – A woman broke out in hives and had difficulty breathing after eating Dannon strawberry yogurt. She went to the emergency room, where she was put on steroids to reduce facial swelling.

2/28/01 – A woman broke out in a rash after drinking Ocean Spray red grapefruit juice.

3/1/01 – A woman was hospitalized for five days after eating red “gummy” candies. She suffered from severe itching, swelling, hives, rash, and difficulty breathing.

3/15/01 – A girl developed itchy eyes, swelling, and hives after eating yogurt containing carmine.

5/9/01 – A woman had anaphylactic reactions on four occasions after eating strawberry-flavored yogurt. She sought treatment from a doctor and was given Benadryl.

5/11/01 – A woman visited the emergency room after eating a product containing carmine, suffering from hives. Also, her tongue and eyes were swollen.

5/29/01 – A boy developed a rash after drinking strawberry-flavored soy milk.

8/22/01 – In seven years, a woman made four visits to the emergency room after ingesting products containing carmine. Her symptoms included vomiting, diarrhea, swollen eyes, and difficulty breathing.

8/27/01 – After eating Yoplait yogurt containing carmine, a registered nurse suffered from swollen eyes, an itchy throat, and difficulty breathing.

8/30/01 – A young boy suffered from swelling, headaches, and vomiting after eating candy containing carmine.

10/31/01 – After eating Good & Plenty candy or drinking small amounts of Ocean Spray juice, a woman developed a severe rash and swelling, along with vomiting and diarrhea.

11/12/01 – A woman went to the emergency room with hives after consuming Good & Plenty candy containing carmine. She had suffered a similar reaction two years previously after eating a Yoplait yogurt pop.

2/12/02 – Immediately after consuming half a container of Dannon yogurt containing carmine, a
woman broke out in a rash and her tongue swelled. She was treated at the emergency room.

2/28/02 – A woman had a severe allergic reaction after consuming Dannon yogurt containing carmine.

3/7/02 – A woman developed hives and her eyes were swollen shut after eating Yoplait yogurt containing carmine.

1/18/05 – A woman visited the emergency room after suffering increasingly severe anaphylactic reactions after eating foods containing carmine.

4/23/05 – On two occasions, after eating Yoplait strawberry yogurt and drinking Tropicana fruit punch, a woman had difficulty breathing, a swollen tongue and mouth, and hives.

5/26/05 – A girl broke out in hives after eating a red popsicle. Her parents suspect that carmine was the cause.