



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**SINGAPORE, 28 APRIL 2003**

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY**  
**PRESS RELEASE**

## **HSA ALERTS ON AUSTRALIA'S RECALL OF VITAMINS, MINERALS AND HERBAL PRODUCTS**

The Health Sciences Authority [HSA] would like to alert the public on the recall of vitamins, minerals and herbal products conducted today by its regulatory counterpart in Australia, the Therapeutic Goods Administration [TGA].

- 2 This public advisory is targeted at our local consumers to:
- a) inform them of Australia's recall of sub-standard products;
  - b) advise them to delay consumption till further confirmatory information is available on whether these sub-standard products have been imported to our local market.

3 HSA would like to assure the public that up to this time, no reports of serious adverse drug reactions associated with the recalled products have been received locally.

4 HSA is working closely with TGA and has launched investigations into the availability of these products in Singapore, and will update consumers as soon as information is available.

### **AUSTRALIA'S ACTION**

5 In TGA's quality audits of Pan Pharmaceuticals Limited of Sydney, Australia, it found serious manufacturing breaches at the company which resulted in quality and safety concerns on the products it manufactures. The manufacturing breaches included substitution of ingredients, manipulation of test results and substandard manufacturing processes.

6 TGA has suspended the manufacturing licence held by Pan Pharmaceuticals Ltd for 6 months. In Australia, Pan Pharmaceuticals Ltd is Australia's largest contract manufacturer of complementary medicines such as herbal, vitamin, mineral and nutritional supplements. This company also manufactures some over-the-counter (OTC) medicines including pain relievers (paracetamol & codeine) and cold and flu preparations.

7 TGA has informed HSA that none of the 1650 export products referred to in its initial press statement were slated for Singapore. The agency is currently working on the list of Singapore-bound products.

**LOCAL SCENE: ADVISORY TO CONSUMERS**

8 HSA is currently working with TGA to identify and confirm the exportation of the recalled products manufactured by Pan Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

9 Some of the brand names in the list released by TGA include:

1. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Product Sdn Bhd
2. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Products
3. Accord Marketing Services
4. American Nutritional
5. Cosway (M) Sdn Bhd
6. Direct Circle Corporation Sdn Bhd
7. Duopharma (M) Sdn Bhd
8. Enervite Export Pty Ltd
9. Enervite USA
10. Gateway Promotions
11. General Nutrition Agencies Pte Ltd
12. Grand Pan-Well
13. Kordel
14. Kordel Nutritional Products
15. Kordel Healthcare
16. Marketlink International Corporation
17. Mode Circle Pte Ltd
18. Nature's Herbals
19. Nature's Way
20. New Image International
21. Nutralife
22. Nutrivital
23. Pan Laboratories (Australia) Pty Ltd
24. Pan Pharmaceuticals
25. Pan Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd
26. Prime
27. Red Seal Natural Health Ltd
28. Roche Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals Ltd
29. Seito Ocean Products Pty Limited
30. Sun Nature Products Pty Ltd
31. Thompson Nutrition Limited
32. United Laboratories Inc
33. Vita Health Laboratories (Australia) Pty Ltd
34. Vita Health Labs Pte Ltd
35. Wan Medical Supplies (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd
36. Watsons
37. Watson's The Chemist Ltd
38. Wellmex Sdn Bhd
39. Young & Success Enterprise Co Ltd

10 If members of the public would like to know more about the affected products in Australia, they can find the list in the TGA website at:

**<http://www.health.gov.au/tga/recalls/panprod.htm>**

11 All local retailers of vitamins, minerals and herbal products of similar brand names as those listed above, are advised to verify the manufacturing source of the products with the suppliers. As a proactive measure, products from Pan Pharmaceuticals Ltd which are being investigated should be withheld from sale for the time being.

12 In the interim, the public is advised to refrain from taking non-essential health products from this manufacturer. HSA will provide more information to the public as soon as it is available.

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY**  
**28 APRIL 03**

---