



SINGAPORE, 13 JULY 2018

HSA

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HSA UPDATES NO 4/2018

HSA UPDATES ON ADULTERATED HEALTH PRODUCTS FOUND IN OTHER COUNTRIES (MARCH - APRIL 2018)

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) would like to update the public on overseas cases of adulterated health products reported between March and April 2018. This information is provided to increase awareness on safety issues of health products found overseas, which may impact the local population. Please refer to Annex A and Annex B for the list of adulterated health products and the possible side effects of the undeclared potent ingredients.

Local Situation

2 To-date, these products are not detected to be sold in Singapore, but it is noted that some of them may have been obtained from overseas sources by consumers.

HSA’s Advisory

- 3 Members of the public are advised to:
- Stop consuming the products and consult a doctor if you are feeling unwell.
 - Avoid buying any of the products when abroad.
 - Be wary of products that promise quick and miraculous results or carry exaggerated claims like “100% safe”, “no side effects” or “scientifically proven”. Consumers should also be cautious of products that produce unexpected quick recovery of medical conditions. Consult your doctor or pharmacist if you need help for the management of your acute and chronic medical symptoms and conditions (e.g. diabetes, hypertension, eczema).
 - Exercise caution when purchasing health products online or from sources (either local or overseas) which you may not be familiar with, even if well-meaning friends or relatives have recommended them. You cannot be certain where and how these products were made. They may be illegal, counterfeit or substandard, and may contain undeclared ingredients which can harm your health. If buying health products online, we encourage you to buy them from websites with an established retail presence in Singapore.
- 4 Additionally, members of the public are encouraged to visit www.healthdangers.sg to learn more about the dangers of buying health products from dubious sources.

5 Members of the public who come across the sale and supply of these adulterated products or other illegal products in Singapore may contact HSA's Enforcement Branch at Tel: 6866-3485 during office hours (Monday to Friday) or email: hsa_is@hsa.gov.sg.

**HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
SINGAPORE
13 JULY 2018**

▪ **About the Health Sciences Authority (HSA)**

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) applies medical, pharmaceutical and scientific expertise through its three professional groups, Health Products Regulation, Blood Services and Applied Sciences, to protect and advance national health and safety. HSA is a multidisciplinary authority. It serves as the national regulator for health products, ensuring they are wisely regulated to meet standards of safety, quality and efficacy. As the national blood service, it is responsible for providing a safe and adequate blood supply. It also applies specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in serving the administration of justice. For more details, visit <http://www.hsa.gov.sg/>.

For more updates on public health and safety matters, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/HSAsg.

▪ **About HSA Updates**


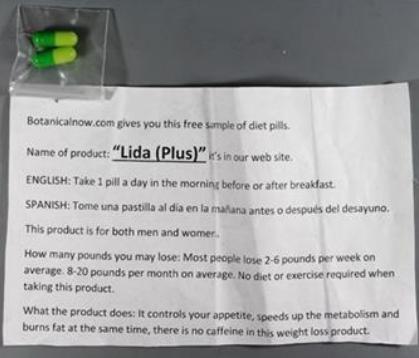


The "HSA Updates" seeks to provide current information, in a consistent and accurate manner, on topics of public interest. For all issues of HSA Updates, please visit www.hsa.gov.sg click "News & Events", and select "HSA Updates".






Media representatives are welcome to send any queries to the Corporate Communications Department @ HSA.

Annex A

List of Adulterated Products

Name of product	Picture of product	Undeclared potent ingredient(s) found	Source (Regulatory Agency)
Black Ant King tablets		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor) and chloramphenicol	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration
Black Lion Pill		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	United States Food and Drug Administration
Euphoric Capsules	Product image not available	Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	United States Food and Drug Administration
GIAM CAN		Sibutramine and Caffeine	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration
Gold Viagra 9800mg capsules		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration

Name of product	Picture of product	Undeclared potent ingredient(s) found	Source (Regulatory Agency)
2 versions of Leopard Miracle of Honey: "Leopard Miracle of honey and herbs" & "Exclusive Formula with Tongkat Ali Root"		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Health Canada
Lida (Plus) capsules	 <p>Botanicalnow.com gives you this free sample of diet pills. Name of product: "Lida (Plus)" it's in our web site. ENGLISH: Take 1 pill a day in the morning before or after breakfast. SPANISH: Tome una pastilla al día en la mañana antes o después del desayuno. This product is for both men and women. How many pounds you may lose: Most people lose 2-6 pounds per week on average. 8-20 pounds per month on average. No diet or exercise required when taking this product. What the product does: It controls your appetite, speeds up the metabolism and burns fat at the same time, there is no caffeine in this weight loss product.</p>	Sibutramine and Phenolphthalein	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration
LIPRO Dietary capsules		Sibutramine and Diphenhydramine	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration
MATCHA SURIMU		Topiramate	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration

Name of product	Picture of product	Undeclared potent ingredient(s) found	Source (Regulatory Agency)
New Lishou		Sibutramine and Phenolphthalein	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration
Nutra Organics Green Tea Extract capsules		Sibutramine	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration
Papapa (啪啪声)		Tadalafil, hydroxyhomosildenafil, hydroxythiohomosildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Hong Kong Department of Health
Rhino 69 Extreme 50000		Tadalafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	United States Food and Drug Administration
Red Zone Xtreme 3000		Tadalafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	United States Food and Drug Administration
Super Slim Soft Gel		Sibutramine	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration

Name of product	Picture of product	Undeclared potent ingredient(s) found	Source (Regulatory Agency)
Slim Trim Gold capsules		Sibutramine, Desmethyisibutramine and Phenolphthalein	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration
Vegetal Vigra capsules		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration
ViaGro 500mg Male Enhancement capsules		Theophylline and Caffeine	Australia Therapeutic Goods Administration
早泄克星		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration
金毛獅王		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration
硬9天膠囊		Sildenafil and Imidazosagatriazinone (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration
早泄克星		Sildenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)	Taiwan Food and Drug Administration

The possible side effects of the undeclared potent ingredients

Caffeine

Caffeine is used in the treatment of conditions including sleep disorders. The inappropriate use of caffeine may lead to insomnia, agitation, restlessness palpitations and increased heart rate.

Chloramphenicol

Chloramphenicol is an antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections. It is a prescription-only medicine and should be used under medical supervision. Chloramphenicol can potentially cause serious adverse effects including nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, headaches and liver injury.

Diphenhydramine

Diphenhydramine is an antihistamine that is used in cough and cold medicines. Diphenhydramine can potentially cause adverse effects including dizziness, dry mouth and drowsiness.

Phenolphthalein

Phenolphthalein was used as a laxative in the past, but has not been registered in Singapore since 2011. Phenolphthalein may cause rashes, abdominal cramps, breathing difficulties, kidney disorders and has been found in animal studies to be associated with cancer.

Phosphodiesterase Type 5 (PDE-5) inhibitors

PDE-5 inhibitors are used to treat male erectile dysfunction and should be used under medical supervision. These class of medicine include sildenafil, tadalafil, carbodenafil, imidazosagatriazinone, dithiodesmethyl carbodenafil, vardenafil and pseudovardenafil. These medicines can potentially cause serious adverse effects such as decreased or loss of vision and hearing, strokes, heart attacks and priapism (painful and exceedingly long erections). If priapism is not treated immediately, it may lead to permanent impotence. PDE-5 inhibitors are also not suitable for patients with medical conditions such as certain heart-related problems or who are on heart medications such as nitrates. Deaths of patients found to be using Sildenafil (PDE-5 inhibitor) while on nitrates have been reported overseas.

Sibutramine

Sibutramine, previously a prescription-only weight loss drug used in the treatment of obesity, has been disallowed for sale in Singapore since 2010 due to increased risk of heart attacks and strokes. The use of sibutramine has been associated with serious adverse effects, including high blood pressure, irregular heartbeats, hallucinations and mood swings.

Theophylline

Theophylline is a prescription medicine used in the treatment of asthma. The use of theophylline has been associated with adverse effects including seizures, irritability, headaches, nausea and vomiting.

Topiramate

Topiramate is a prescription medicine used to treat conditions including seizures. The use of topiramate has been associated with adverse effects, including confusion, drowsiness, fever, nausea, irritability and stomach pain.