

SINGAPORE, 10 AUGUST 2017

**HSA UPDATES** 

### "HSA UPDATES" addresses topics of current public interest, and is subject to change as more information becomes available. HSA UPDATES NO 5/2017

## HSA UPDATES ON "SRI AMBIKKAS OMUM WATER"

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) was alerted by a doctor on the evening of 4 Aug 2017 that a male in his fifties developed throat and chest discomfort, together with swelling of his airways, soon after consuming 'Sri Ambikkas Omum Water', which was purchased by his family member from a provision shop. The patient has since been hospitalised and is showing signs of improvement. Testing of the patient's product sample by an HSA laboratory found it to be of high alkalinity, with a pH of more than 13. A highly alkaline product may cause adverse reactions, including injuries or burns to the tissues which come into contact with it. No other common poisons (drugs) were detected in the sample. Please refer to Annex A for pictures of the product.

After receiving the laboratory results, HSA immediately contacted the shop and importer to quarantine and stop sales of all stocks of "Sri Ambikkas Omum Water". HSA has obtained and tested additional samples of the product, and they were found to be of a neutral pH of 7.4 to 7.9.

3 The above case of high alkalinity of the product sample taken by the patient appears to be an isolated incident and the cause is unknown. Investigations are ongoing.

4 To date, HSA has not received any other adverse event reports with 'Sri Ambikkas Omum Water'.

### More about "Omum Water"

5 "Omum" is the common name for the herb "Trachyspermum ammi". According to traditional medicine references, the distilled oil of the herb in water, called "Omum water", is to aid digestion and can be applied externally for pain relief.

HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY SINGAPORE 10 AUGUST 2017

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 <a href="http://www.hsa.gov.sg/">http://www.hsa.gov.sg/</a>.

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

### 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 <u>www.hsa.gov.sg</u> click "News & Events", and select "HSA Updates".

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

'Sri Ambikkas Omum Water'



# BIKKAS SRI AMBIKKA

# OMUM WATER

Omum Water is for many common stomach ailments such as stomach aches, indigestion and constipation.

# ஓம திராவகம்

லம்ற்றப்போக்கு, ஜிரணக்குறைவு, வமிற்றவலி, உப்பிசம், புளியேப்பம், ஆகிய வியாதிகளுக்கு உகந்த <sup>சு</sup>றந்த ரேசுன்னின் ஒம திராவகம்

### **AIR LEMUJU**

Minumlah air lemuju untuk sakit perut. Kan membantu menghadamkan makanan, Kent kembong dan menolong melawaskan Pembuangan air besar.

# DOSAGE:-Adults - 4 to 5 Tablespoon

Children - 1/2 to 2 Teaspoon Expiry Date : 31-12-2019

KKAS SRIAMBIKKA

