



HSA updates on products found overseas that contain potent ingredients (October 2021)

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) would like to update the public on products that have been found and reported by overseas regulators in October 2021 to contain potent ingredients which are not allowed in these products and may cause side effects. This information is provided to increase awareness on safety issues of such products found overseas, which may impact the local population. Please refer to Annex A and Annex B for the list of products and the possible side effects of the potent ingredients.

HSA's Advisory

- 2 Members of the public are advised to:
 - Consult a doctor if you have consumed any of the products and are feeling unwell.
 - Avoid buying any of the products when abroad.
 - 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 potent 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.
 - 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).

- 3 Additionally, members of the public are encouraged to visit <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/> to learn more about the dangers of buying health products from dubious sources.

- 4 Members of the public who come across the sale and supply of these 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.

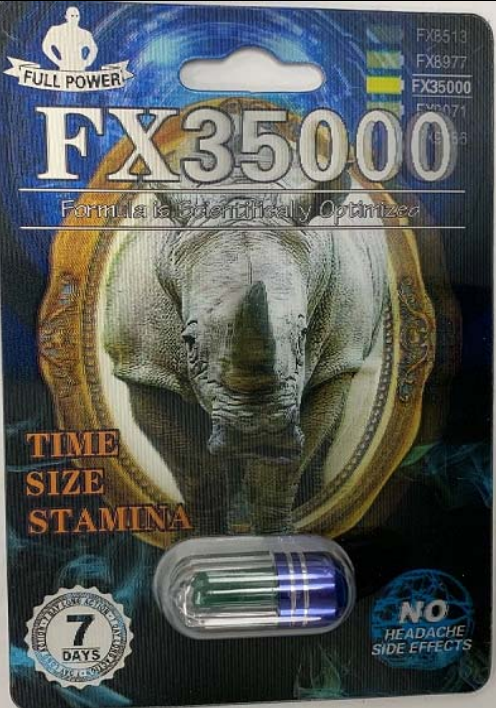

Annex A

List of Products

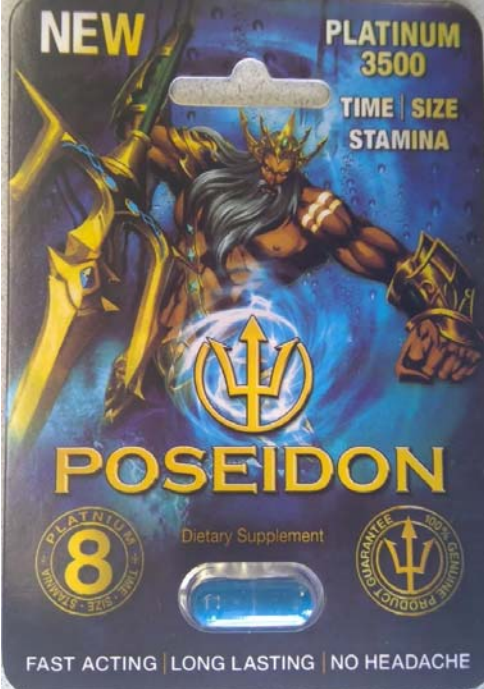


Note: There may be different versions or variants of the products listed below. You are advised to consult your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure of any health product you intend to use, or if you need help for your acute and chronic medical symptoms and conditions

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
<p>ALLISI Acne Purifying Cream</p>	 <p>This creme hydrates while controlling oil and shine and skin while borneol helps manage redness, together p</p> <p>Direction Apply locally in small quantities to affected areas. May</p> <p>Ingredients Deionized Water(Aqua), Butylene Glycol, Glycerin, Collagen Triglyceride, Scutellaria Baicalensis Root Extract, Simmondsia Extract, Alternifolia/Tea Tree/Leaf Oil, Daucus Carota Sativa Chinese Corktree Extract, Dimethicone, Cetearyl Alcohol Isononanoate, Borneol, Phenoxyethanol, Parfum.</p>	<p>Clindamycin</p>	<p>Malaysia Ministry of Health</p>

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
<p>Alien Power Platinum 11000</p>		<p>Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)</p>	<p>Health Canada</p>
<p>ALPHA MALE+ Male Enhancer</p>		<p>Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)</p>	<p>United States Food and Drug Administration</p>

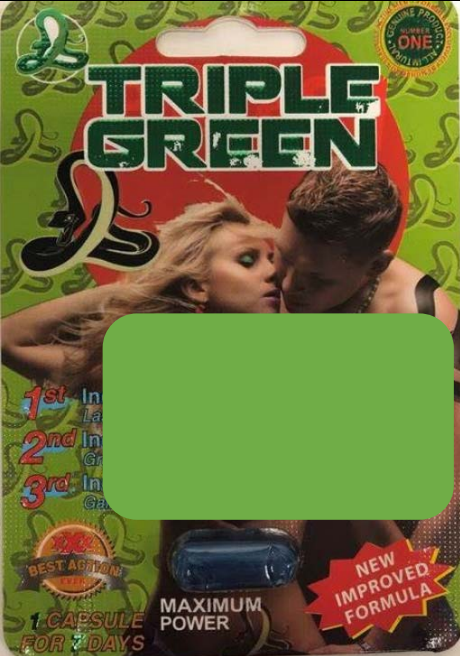
Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
FX 35000	 <p>The image shows the packaging for FX35000. At the top, it says 'FULL POWER' and 'FX35000'. Below that, it says 'Formula is Scientifically Optimized'. The central image is a rhinoceros's head. To the left, it says 'TIME SIZE STAMINA'. At the bottom left, there is a circular seal that says '7 DAYS'. At the bottom right, it says 'NO HEADACHE SIDE EFFECTS'. There is also a small image of a pill in a blister pack.</p>	Sildenafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)	Health Canada
HERBEREX	 <p>The image shows the packaging for HERBEREX. It features a box of pills with a green and yellow design. The text on the box includes 'HERBEREX', 'Healthy Erectile Function', 'Increase Testosterone', 'Improve Sexual Performance', 'Improve Stamina and Longevity', and 'Boost Testosterone Levels'. At the bottom, it says 'ALL-NATURAL MALE SEXUAL ENHANCEMENT'.</p>	Nortadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)	Health Canada

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
Lucky Lady		Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)	Health Canada
M EXTRA	NA	Sildenafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)	Cambodia Ministry of Health
MA KHAW		Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors)	Cambodia Ministry of Health


Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
Poseidon Platinum 3500		Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)	Health Canada
PUTERI RATU – Treatment Cream – Whitening Cream		Mercury	Brunei Darussalam Ministry of Health
Rhino 7 Platinum 10000		Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)	Health Canada

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
<p>Rhino 25 Platinum 150 K</p>		<p>Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)</p>	<p>Health Canada</p>
<p>Rhino 99 Platinum 200 K</p>		<p>Sildenafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)</p>	<p>Health Canada</p>

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
Rush Hour 72		Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors)	Health Canada
Super Panther 7K		Yohimbe	Health Canada

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
Triple Green		Yohimbe	Health Canada
VIBRANT – Skin Glowing Toner		Hydroquinone	Brunei Darussalam Ministry of Health

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
			
<p>X RATED HONEY FOR MEN</p>		<p>Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)</p>	<p>United States Food and Drug Administration</p>

Name of product	Picture of product	Potent ingredient(s)	Source (Regulatory Agency)
3800 Hard Rock		Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)	Health Canada

Annex B

The possible side effects of the potent ingredients

Clindamycin

Clindamycin is an antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections. It is a prescription medicine and should be used under medical supervision. Hypersensitivity reactions, such as skin rashes and urticaria, may occur with the use of clindamycin. Severe skin reactions, such as toxic epidermal necrolysis, have been reported with fatal outcomes. Other side effects associated with its use include severe stomach pain, changes in bowel habits, watery or bloody diarrhoea and renal dysfunction resulting in little or no urination.

Hydroquinone

Hydroquinone is a potent ingredient used in prescription medicines for the treatment of skin conditions. The ingredient is prohibited in skincare cosmetic products and should only be used under medical supervision, as hydroquinone may cause harmful effects if not used properly. The inappropriate use of hydroquinone could result in changes in skin colour and hypersensitivity reactions such as rashes, redness, tingling and burning of skin.

Mercury

Mercury is a toxic substance and is prohibited for use as an ingredient in cosmetic products. Regular application of creams containing mercury could lead to rash, skin discolouration and blotching. Chronic exposure to very high levels of mercury in cosmetic products may also cause toxic effects to the kidneys, digestive and nervous system, as it can be absorbed through the skin. This could lead to organ damage.

Phosphodiesterase Type 5 (PDE-5) inhibitors

This class of medicine includes nortadalafil, sildenafil and tadalafil. These medicines can cause serious side effects such as strokes, heart attacks, decreased or loss of vision and hearing 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.

Yohimbe/Yohimbine

Yohimbine is a potent medicinal ingredient derived from yohimbe, a bark extract. Side effects associated with yohimbe or yohimbine include insomnia, anxiety, palpitations (sensation of heart pounding, racing or skipped beats), sweating and blurred vision. Overdosage can cause low blood pressure, rapid heartbeats, seizures, paralysis and coma. Deaths from overdose have also been reported.