

Republic of the Philippines Department of Health FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



FDA ADVISORY No. 2018-229

27 JUL 2018

TO:

THE GENERAL PUBLIC

SUBJECT:

<u>Public Health Warning Against the Purchase and Consumption of the following Unregistered Supplements:</u>

- 1. GNC MEGA ACIDOPHILUS
- 2. AIRBORNE ORIGINAL IMMUNE SUPPORT SUPPLEMENT, CITRUS FLAVOR, CHEWABLE TABLETS
- 3. SLICE OF LIFE ORGANICS ENERGY + B12 ADULT GUMMY VITAMINS
- 4. SMARTY PANTS KID COMPLETE
 MULTIVITAMIN OMEGA 3 FISH OIL, VITAMIN
 D3 AND B12

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advises the public against the purchase and consumption of the following unregistered food supplements:



Figure 1. Unregistered GNC Mega Acidophilus 1.5 Billion CFUs











Figure 2. Unregistered AIRBORNE ORIGINAL Immune Support Supplement, Citrus Flavor, Chewable Tablets

Figure 3. Unregistered SLICE OF LIFE Organics Energy + B12 Adult Gummy Vitamins



Figure 4. Unregistered SMARTY PANTS Kid Complete Multivitamin Omega 3 Fish Oil, Vitamin D3 and B12

FDA post-marketing surveillance (PMS) activities have verified that the abovementioned food supplements have not gone through the registration process of the agency and have not been issued the proper authorization in the form of Certificate of Product Registration. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9711, otherwise known as the "Food and Drug Administration Act of 2009", the manufacture, importation, exportation, sale, offering for sale, distribution, transfer, nonconsumer use, promotion, advertising or sponsorship of health products without the proper authorization from FDA is prohibited.

Accordingly, since unregistered food supplements have not gone through evaluation and testing process of the FDA, the agency cannot guarantee their quality and safety. The consumption of such violative products may pose potential health hazard to the consuming public. Food products including food supplements should not bear any misleading, deceptive, and false claims in their labels and/or any promotional materials that will provide erroneous impression on products' character or identity.

In light of the foregoing, the public is advised not to purchase the aforementioned violative products. Moreover, the public is advised to be vigilant against food products that might not be duly registered with FDA. Always check if a food product has been registered with FDA before purchasing it by making use of the embedded *Search* feature of the FDA website accessible at www.fda.gov.ph.

All concerned establishments are warned not to distribute the above-identified violative food products until they have already been covered by the appropriate authorization (product registration), otherwise, regulatory actions and sanctions shall be strictly pursued.

All Local Government Units (LGUs) and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) are requested to ensure that these products are not sold or made available in their localities or areas of jurisdiction.

For more information and inquiries, please e-mail us at <u>info@fda.gov.ph</u>. To report continuous sale or distribution of the above unregistered food supplement, utilize our online reporting facility, eReport, at <u>www.fda.gov.ph/ereport</u>, or e-mail us via <u>foodsafety@fda.gov.ph</u>, or call us at the Center for Food Regulation and Research (CFRR) hotline (02) 857-1900 loc. 8115 and 8112.

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is requested.

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Director General

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