



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**



**FDA ADVISORY**  
No. **2019-074**

05 MAR 2019

**TO: GENERAL CONSUMING PUBLIC**

**SUBJECT: Public Health Warning Against the Use of Unnotified Cosmetic Products Found to Contain Toxic Mercury (Hg) Levels (Batch 1)**

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The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advises the public against the purchase and use of the following cosmetic products:

- 1. PARLEY® BEAUTY CREAM**
- 2. PARLEY® HERBAL WHITENING CREAM NOURISHING WITH AVOCADO**

FDA post-marketing surveillance (PMS) activities have verified that the abovementioned cosmetic products have not gone through the verification process of the agency and have not been issued the proper authorization in the form of acknowledged cosmetic notifications. 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, non-consumer use, promotion, advertising or sponsorship of health products without the proper authorization from FDA is prohibited.

Furthermore, the foregoing products were tested and found to contain toxic mercury (Hg) levels beyond the 1 ppm (parts per million) limit set by the FDA, and as published in the ASEAN Cosmetic Directive (refer to the attached annex for the product particulars/details).

Mercury salts in cosmetic products inhibits the formation of skin melanin which will result to lighter skin tone. Adverse health effects brought about by highly toxic mercury in cosmetics products include kidney damage, skin rashes, skin discoloration and scarring. Chronic use reduces the skin’s normal resistance against bacterial and fungal infections. Other effects include anxiety, depression or psychosis and peripheral neuropathy. The transfer of mercury to fetuses of pregnant women may manifest as neurodevelopment deficits later in life.


In light of the above, the public is advised not to purchase the aforementioned violative products. Moreover, the public is also advised to be vigilant against cosmetic products that might not be duly notified with FDA. Always check if a cosmetic product has been notified with FDA before purchasing it by making use of the embedded *Search* feature of the FDA website accessible at [www.fda.gov.ph](http://www.fda.gov.ph).

All concerned establishments are warned not to distribute the above-identified violative cosmetic products until they have already been covered by the appropriate authorization (cosmetic notification), 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.

To report any suspicious and/or illegal activity involving the said products, the public may contact FDA through its online reporting facility, **eReport**, at [www.fda.gov.ph/ereport](http://www.fda.gov.ph/ereport), or e-mail us at [report@fda.gov.ph](mailto:report@fda.gov.ph), or call the Center for Cosmetics Regulation and Research (CCRR) hotline (02) 857-1900 local 8107/8113.

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is requested.

  
NELA CHARADE G. PUNO, RPh  
Director General

DTN 20190211101231



**ANNEX**  
Details of the Unnotified Cosmetic Products

PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DETAILS	PRODUCT IMAGE/S
<b>1 PARLEY® BEAUTY CREAM</b>	<p>Manufactured by: Khyber Chemical (Pvt.) Ltd.</p> <p>Manufacturer's Address: 119/3-M, Quaid-e-Azam Industrial Estate, Kotlakhpat, Lahore, Pakistan, P.O. Box 300 G.P.O Lahore</p> <p>Local Company Responsible for Placing the Product in the Market: Not Indicated</p> <p>Address: Not Indicated</p> <p>Country of Manufacture: Pakistan</p> <p>Lot/Batch Number: D1038 Mfg. Date: 06.05.17 Exp. Date: 05.05.20</p>	
<b>2 PARLEY® HERBAL WHITENING CREAM NOURISHING WITH AVOCADO</b>	<p>Manufactured by: Khyber Chemical (Pvt.) Ltd.</p> <p>Manufacturer's Address: 119/3-M, Quaid-e-Azam Industrial Estate, Kotlakhpat, Lahore, Pakistan, P.O. Box 300 G.P.O Lahore</p> <p>Local Company Responsible for Placing the Product in the Market: Not Indicated</p> <p>Address: Not Indicated</p> <p>Country of Manufacture: Pakistan</p> <p>Lot/Batch Number: 1244 Mfg. Date: 26.04.16 Exp. Date: 25.04.19</p>	