



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



2 August 2013

FDA ADVISORY
No. **2013-021**

Center for Cosmetic Regulation and Research

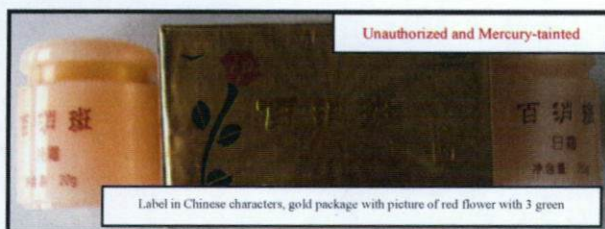
SUBJECT: CONSUMERS ADVISED TO BUY ONLY FDA-AUTHORIZED COSMETIC PRODUCTS VERIFIED THROUGH FDA WEBSITE (www.fda.gov.ph), AND TO BUY ONLY FROM LEGITIMATE OUTLETS

Over the past few years, it has been observed that several advisories or issuances have been released by the FDA which listed unauthorized cosmetic products, i.e. a Certificate of Notification has not been issued by the FDA for the products, that have been found to contain mercury beyond the 1 ppm limit set by the FDA and the ASEAN Cosmetics Directive. Apparently, there will be more cosmetic products that will be tested to contain mercury beyond the allowable limits for as long as there are FDA-unlicensed entities or illegitimate establishments that will be manufacturing, importing/smuggling and distributing cosmetic products, and there are unsuspecting consumers patronizing these cheap but hazardous cosmetic products.



Based on the long list of cosmetic products that are already banned by the FDA, it can be concluded that all cosmetic products which that are imported, manufactured or distributed by unlicensed cosmetic establishments are toxic and hazardous to health. All cosmetic products that do not pass the FDA safety and quality evaluation do not comply with the requirements of the Code of Good Manufacturing Practice.

All consumers are advised NEVER to buy cosmetic products that are not authorized by the FDA and to buy only from legitimate outlets. Cosmetic products are health products that may need advice or assistance from a pharmacist or trained healthcare product provider on the proper use, a service which only a legitimate outlet can provide. Consumers are further advised NOT to buy cosmetic products, among other health product needs, from ambulant and sidewalk vendors.



For protection, consumers are enjoined to access the FDA website (<http://www.fda.gov.ph>). To verify if a Certificate of Notification has been issued, use the **SEARCH** tab found in the upper right hand corner of the website. Type the product

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name and wait until the name of the product appears. The product name and other details will appear, namely the name of the company, the Certificate of Notification No. (NN No.), and product variants. To report any adverse reactions from using a specific cosmetic product, please email us at report@fda.gov.ph . For other inquiries, kindly email us at info@fda.gov.ph .



All local government units are hereby requested to remain vigilant in ensuring that all cosmetic products that are sold in their localities are registered with the FDA and sold by legitimate outlets. The FDA Field Inspectors are hereby ordered to report any violation of R.A. No. 3720, as amended, or the Food, Drugs and Devises, and Cosmetic Act, and R.A. No. 9711, or the FDA Act of 2009, for appropriate legal action.


KENNETH Y. HARTIGAN-GO, MD
Acting Director General

