



**FDA ADVISORY**  
No. **2016-093**

22 AUG 2016

**TO: GENERAL CONSUMING PUBLIC, FIELD REGULATORY OPERATIONS OFFICE OF THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND COSMETIC RETAILERS**

**SUBJECT: Public Health Warning Against the Use of Jiachuntang Ban Gan Jing Qu Ban Shuang, an Unnotified Cosmetic Product Found to Contain Toxic Mercury (Hg) Levels**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advises the public against the purchase and use of **JIACHUNTANG BAN GAN JING QU BAN SHUANG**, which was found to contain toxic mercury (Hg) levels. According to laboratory results, the product contained mercury levels beyond the 1 ppm (parts per million) limit set by FDA, and as published in the ASEAN Cosmetic Directive (ACD).

**JIACHUNTANG BAN GAN JING QU BAN SHUANG**

Manufacturer's Name: Shenzhen Jiachuntang Cosmetics Co. Ltd.

Country of Manufacture: Not Indicated

Local Company Responsible for Placing the Product in the Market: Not Indicated

Address: Not Indicated



Figure 1. Jiachuntang Ban Gan Jing Qu Ban Shuang (Primary Display Panel, Outer Packaging)



Figure 2. Jiachuntang Ban Gan Jing Qu Ban Shuang (Primary Display Panel, Immediate Packaging)

The manufacture, importation, exportation, distribution, sale, offer for sale, transportation, promotion and/or advertisement of these non-compliant products is in direct violation of R.A. 9711.

This finding is not surprising for cosmetic products without the appropriate FDA market authorization. Unknown to consumers, there are unscrupulous manufacturers and traders that add mercury salts in cosmetic products to inhibit the formation of skin melanin



which will result to lighter skin tones. Adverse health effects brought about by highly toxic mercury in cosmetic 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:


Cosmetic products, prior being placed into the local market, must be duly notified with the FDA by a licensed cosmetic distributor and/or manufacturer. However, if a cosmetic product has not been verified by FDA as in the case of this unnotified product, the use of which poses potential health hazards to the consuming public. FDA cannot guarantee their quality and safety. Thus, the public is advised to always verify if a cosmetic product has been notified with FDA before purchasing it. The FDA website, accessible at <http://www.fda.gov.ph> contains a list of notified cosmetic products which is searchable through its embedded *Search* feature. All consumers are advised to be vigilant of the abovementioned cosmetic product. Retailers of cosmetic products are also warned against selling this product.

In the interest of protecting public health and safety, the FDA Field Regulatory Operations Office (FROO) is ordered to monitor the market for the manufacture, importation, exportation, distribution, sale, offer for sale, transportation, promotion and/or advertisement of the abovementioned cosmetic product. FROO is further ordered to conduct inventory and seal all of the aforesaid unnotified cosmetic product found in the Philippine market, and to effect/conduct seizure of the same in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

Likewise, all local government units and law enforcement agencies are requested to ensure that this product is not sold or made available in their localities or areas of jurisdiction.

For more information and inquiries, please e-mail us at [info@fda.gov.ph](mailto:info@fda.gov.ph). To report continuous sale or distribution of unnotified cosmetic products, kindly e-mail us via [report@fda.gov.ph](mailto:report@fda.gov.ph), call us at (02) 857-1984, or utilize our online reporting facility, **eReport**, at <http://www.fda.gov.ph/ereport>.

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is requested.

  
**MARIA LOURDES C. SANTIAGO, MSc, MM**  
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