



FDA ADVISORY
No. **2018-008**

24 JAN 2018

TO : GENERAL CONSUMING PUBLIC

SUBJECT: Public Health Warning on Certain School Supply Products with Unacceptable Levels of Heavy Metals

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) warns the public against the purchase and use of the following school supply products which have been verified to contain unacceptable levels of heavy metals, including lead, cadmium and mercury, based on FDA safety standards:

1. **12 IN 1 PENCIL**
2. **FAIRYLAND® 16 CRAYONS**
3. **LEEHO® GLITTER FABRIC PAINT PENS**

According to study reports published by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the adverse health effects associated with lead exposure in children may have long-lasting or permanent consequences. These effects include neurological damage, delayed mental and physical development, attention and learning deficiencies, neurocognitive deficits, and hearing problems. The CPSC reported that the principal effects of long-term exposures from inhalation of cadmium and cadmium compounds are chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases and emphysema, and chronic renal tubular diseases from inhalation and oral exposures. The CPSC report also cited that depending on the dose and duration of exposure to cadmium, effects have been observed in multiple organ systems and tissues, including kidney, liver, and bone.

Mercury, another heavy metal, is considered by the World Health Organization (WHO) as one of the top ten chemicals or groups of chemicals of major public health concern. Exposure to mercury even in small amounts, according to the WHO, may cause serious health problems, and is a threat to the development of the child *in utero* and early in life.

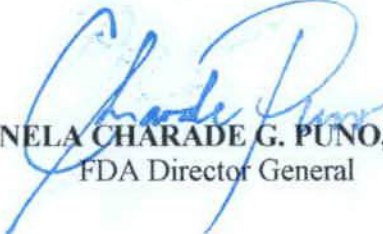
Children, because of their physical and mental immaturity, have always been considered as a high-risk population. Their hand-to-mouth behavior as well as their innate curiosity predisposes them to put objects in their mouth resulting to unintended exposure to multiple hazardous substances that may be contained in such objects. Accordingly, to protect them from unnecessary hazards, parents, school teachers and guardians are strongly advised to strictly monitor the children especially when they are engaged in activities wherein adult supervision is required.

In light of the above, the public is advised not to purchase and use the aforementioned violative products. All concerned establishments are warned not to distribute the above-identified products. Moreover, all Local Government Units (LGUs) and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) are requested to ensure that the above-identified products are 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. To report continuous sale or distribution of the above-identified violative products, utilize our online reporting facility, **eReport**, at www.fda.gov.ph/ereport, or e-mail us via report@fda.gov.ph, or call us at the Center for Cosmetics Regulation and Research (CCRR) hotline (02) 857-1979 or (02) 857-1984.

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is requested.


NELA CHARADE G. PUNO, RPh
FDA Director General

DTN: 20180115165622



ANNEX

Details on Certain School Supply Products with Unacceptable Levels of Heavy Metals

PRODUCT NAME	PRODUCT DETAILS	PRODUCT IMAGE/S
1 12 IN 1 PENCIL	<p>Country of Manufacture: Not Indicated</p> <p>Local Company Responsible for Placing the Product in the Market: Not Indicated</p> <p>Address: Not Indicated</p>	
2 FAIRYLAND® 16 CRAYONS	<p>Country of Manufacture: Philippines</p> <p>Local Company Responsible for Placing the Product in the Market: JC Joaquin Commercial</p> <p>Address: Quezon City, Metro Manila</p>	
3 LEEHO® GLITTER FABRIC PAINT PENS	<p>Country of Manufacture: Korea</p> <p>Local Company Responsible for Placing the Product in the Market: Not Indicated</p> <p>Address: Not Indicated</p>	