

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



08 January 2013

FDA ADVISORY No. 2014-002

## SUBJECT: Public Health Warning Against the Use of Banned or Unregistered Slimming or Anti-Obesity Products Sold in Outlets or Offered Online



The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has monitored several slimming or anti-obesity pill, like the Hokkaido Slimming Pills, which are advertised and sold online. These products may contain harmful ingredients to health.

From 2010 to 2012, the FDA has issued recall, seizure, and ban of at least twenty-six (26) slimming or anti-obesity products, which contained amphetamine, sibutramine, and steroids. These products were being marketed as oral capsules or as coffee drinks. Some of the FDA-banned products are Ballet Dancer Fat Reducing, Bio-Lissom Fat Reducing, Brazilian Slimming Coffee, Cell Life Slimming Coffee, Elegant Shape Fat Reducing, Goodliness Fat Reducing, Happyslim, Leisure 18 Slimming Coffee, Lightness Fat Reducing, Maggie Fitness Essence, Mei Shen Ting Anti-Obesity, Modeling Fat-Reducing, New Original Lightness Fat-Reducing, Pearl White

Slimming, Perfect Figure Slimming, Perfect Slim Fat Reduction Cosmetic, Perfect Slim Purely Natural Fat Reduction Cosmetic, Pill for Weight Reduction, Pretty Model, Qiaomei Fat Binder, Qi Xian Nu, Seven Days Miracle, Shaping Body Fat Loss, Slim and Beauty Slimming, Slim Up Extra Whitening and Reducing, and Xianzimei Fat Reduction.

Amphetamine causes irregular heartbeat, confusion, urine retention and painful urination, hyperthermia, hyperreflexia, muscle pain, severe agitation, rapid breathing, and tremor. Large overdose, however, may produce symptoms such as psychosis, anuria, cardiogenic shock, cerebral hemorrhage, circulatory collapse, extreme fever, pulmonary hypertension, renal failure, rapid muscle breakdown, serotonin syndrome, and stereotypy. Fatal amphetamine poisoning usually involves convulsions and coma.

Sibutramine has been shown in a well-designed study to increase the risk of serious heart events, including non-fatal heart attack or non-fatal stroke and death, by 16% in a group of patients given sibutramine compared with another group given the









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placebo. The study also showed that there was only a small difference in weight loss between the placebo group and the sibutramine group.

The public is hereby advised not to buy unregistered and banned health products through the internet. To check if a product is registered with the FDA, please log in at the FDA website (www.fda.gov.ph) and type in the name of the product in the SEARCH bar. To report any unregistered or banned health products, please email us via report@fda.gov.ph

All consumers are advised to use only FDA-approved slimming pills or antiobesity drugs under the supervision of doctors.

All FDA inspectors are hereby ordered to seize unregistered slimming products or those containing amphetamine, sibutramine and steroids from all outlets or establishments where they are found, sold or offered for sale or use.

All local government units and enforcement agencies are urged to close down outlets and establishments that sell banned or unregistered health products. Likewise, the FDA appeals to the Bureau of Customs to prevent the entry of banned products in the Philippine market.

For more information or clarification, kindly email us via info@fda.gov.ph.

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