



## **HSA updates on products found overseas that contain potent ingredients (December 2020)**

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) would like to update the public on products that have been found and reported by overseas regulators in December 2020 to contain potent ingredients which are not allowed in these products and may cause side effects. This information is provided to increase awareness on safety issues of such products found overseas, which may impact the local population. Please refer to Annex A and Annex B for the list of products and the possible side effects of the potent ingredients.

### **HSA's Advisory**

- 2 Members of the public are advised to:
  - Consult a doctor if you have consumed any of the products and are feeling unwell.
  - Avoid buying any of the products when abroad.
  - Exercise caution when purchasing health products online or from sources (either local or overseas) which you may not be familiar with, even if well-meaning friends or relatives have recommended them. You cannot be certain where and how these products were made. They may be illegal, counterfeit or substandard, and may contain potent ingredients which can harm your health. If buying health products online, we encourage you to buy them from websites with an established retail presence in Singapore.
  - Be wary of products that promise quick and miraculous results or carry exaggerated claims like “100% safe”, “no side effects” or “scientifically proven”. Consumers should also be cautious of products that produce unexpected quick recovery of medical conditions.
  - Consult your doctor or pharmacist if you need help for the management of your acute and chronic medical symptoms and conditions (e.g. diabetes, hypertension, eczema).
  
- 3 Additionally, members of the public are encouraged to visit <https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/> to learn more about the dangers of buying health products from dubious sources.
  
- 4 Members of the public who come across the sale and supply of these products in Singapore may contact HSA's Enforcement Branch at Tel: 6866 3485 during office hours (Monday to Friday) or email: [hsa\\_is@hsa.gov.sg](mailto:hsa_is@hsa.gov.sg).

## Annex A

### List of Products

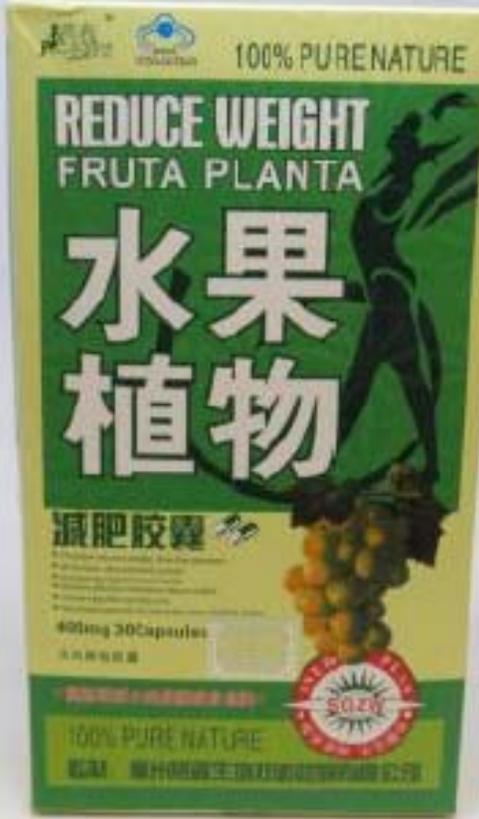
Note: There may be different versions or variants of the products listed below. You are advised to consult your doctor or pharmacist if you are unsure of any health product you intend to use, or if you need help for your acute and chronic medical symptoms and conditions

| Name of product   | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                 | Source (Regulatory Agency)                               |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| <p>ANYLADY<br/>Eyeshadow<br/>Make Up<br/>Palette<br/>(No. 02)</p>                 |   | <p>Lead<br/>(Toxic heavy metals)</p> | <p>Myanmar<br/>Ministry of<br/>Health and<br/>Sports</p> |
| <p>Apple Two<br/>Way Cake<br/>Eye shadow<br/>&amp; Lipstick &amp;<br/>Blusher</p> |  | <p>Rhodamine B</p>                   | <p>Myanmar<br/>Ministry of<br/>Health and<br/>Sports</p> |

| Name of product                             | Picture of product   | Potent ingredient(s)                           | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|---|--|--|--|
| Black Stallion 9000                         |   | Tadalafil<br>(PDE-5 inhibitors)                | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Blooming Health + Beauty – Skin Renew Cream |   | Hydroquinone and Tretinoin                     | Brunei Darussalam, Ministry of Health      |
| Blue Panther Extreme 75k                    |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil<br>(PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product                                       | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)       | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|---|---|----------------------------|--|
| Brightest Skin Essentials – Rejuvenating Facial Toner |    | Tretinoin                  | Brunei Darussalam, Ministry of Health      |
| Brightest Skin Essentials – Rejuvenating Night Cream  |   | Hydroquinone and Tretinoin | Brunei Darussalam, Ministry of Health      |
| Burn 7  |  | Phenolphthalein            | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product                     | Picture of product   | Potent ingredient(s)                           | Source (Regulatory Agency)                                |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <p>Burro en Primavera<br/>60000</p> |   | <p>Tadalafil<br/>(PDE-5 inhibitor)</p>         | <p>United States<br/>Food and Drug<br/>Administration</p> |
| <p>Fruta Bio</p>                    |  | <p>Sibutramine<br/>and<br/>Phenolphthalein</p> | <p>United States<br/>Food and Drug<br/>Administration</p> |

| Name of product    | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Fruta Planta       |   | Sibutramine                 | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Ginseng Power 5000 |  | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product                   | Picture of product   | Potent ingredient(s)         | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Gold Lion                         |   | Sildenafil (PDE-5 inhibitor) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| HASAYA GIRL Blushing Love Blusher |  | Lead (Toxic heavy metals)    | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |

| Name of product | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)           | Source (Regulatory Agency)                       |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Hot Rod         |  | Tadalafil<br>(PDE-5 inhibitor) | United States<br>Food and Drug<br>Administration |

| Name of product   | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                                       | Source (Regulatory Agency)                                |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>HUXIABEAU<br/>TY Liquid<br/>Matte Lip<br/>Gloss &amp;<br/>Lipstick</p> |   | <p>Pigment Orange</p>                                      | <p>Myanmar<br/>Ministry of<br/>Health and<br/>Sports</p>  |
| <p>Imperial<br/>Extreme<br/>2000</p>                                      |  | <p>Sildenafil and<br/>Tadalafil<br/>(PDE-5 inhibitors)</p> | <p>United States<br/>Food and Drug<br/>Administration</p> |

| Name of product  | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|--|---|---|--|
| Imperial Gold 2000   |    | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Imperial Platinum 2000   |   | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)                 | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| JXZH Beautiful Flower Style London Clearly Distinct Eyeliner Fluid |  | Lead (Toxic heavy metals)                   | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |

| Name of product   | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                     | Source (Regulatory Agency)                               |
|---|---|--|--|
|   |    |  |  |
| <p>Kiss Beauty<br/>Matte<br/>Colorful<br/>Blush Finish<br/>Touch - 04</p> |   | <p>Rhodamine B</p>                       | <p>Myanmar<br/>Ministry of<br/>Health and<br/>Sports</p> |
| <p>Kiss Beauty<br/>8 Color<br/>Eyeshadow +<br/>2 Color<br/>Blusher</p>    |  | <p>Lead<br/>(Toxic heavy<br/>metals)</p> | <p>Myanmar<br/>Ministry of<br/>Health and<br/>Sports</p> |

| Name of product                              | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)               | Source (Regulatory Agency)                       |
|--|---|------------------------------------|--|
|  |    |                                    |  |
| Krazy Night                                  |   | Tadalafil<br>(PDE-5 inhibitor)     | United States<br>Food and Drug<br>Administration |
| LANXI<br>Whitening<br>Bird's Nest<br>Essence |  | Mercury<br>(Toxic heavy<br>metals) | Myanmar<br>Ministry of<br>Health and<br>Sports   |

| Name of product                       | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Li Da Daidaihua Plus                  |    | Phenolphthalein             | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Mero Macho                            |   | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Merry Sun – Rejuvenating Facial Toner |  | Tretinoin                   | Brunei Darussalam, Ministry of Health      |

| Name of product  | Picture of product   | Potent ingredient(s)                             | Source (Regulatory Agency)   |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>NYX Pro Mineral Eyeshadow &amp; Blusher</p> |  | <p>Rhodamine B</p> | <p>Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports</p> |

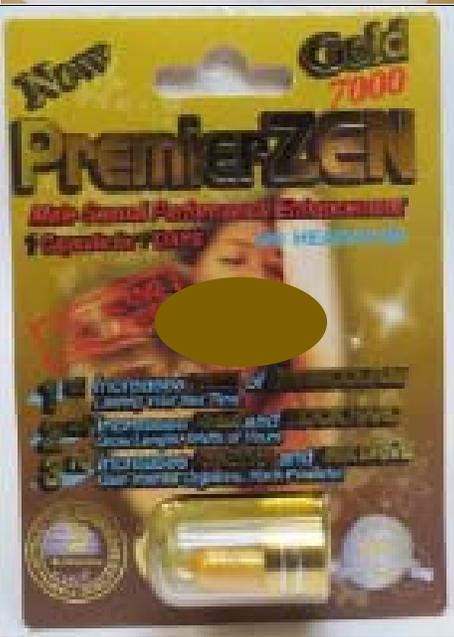
| Name of product                    | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)  | Source (Regulatory Agency)                   |
|------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <p>NYX Soft Matte Lip Cream</p>    |   | <p>Rhodamine B</p>  | <p>Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports</p> |
| <p>Optimal Wet Wipes Aloe Vera</p> |  | <p>Methylchloroisothiazolinone (MCI) and Methylisothiazolinone (MI)</p> | <p>EU RAPEX (Cyprus)</p>                     |

| Name of product | Picture of product | Potent ingredient(s) | Source (Regulatory Agency) |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
|                 |                    |                      |                            |

| Name of product   | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|---|---|---|--|
| Original White Dragon   |    | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Pond's Angel Face Finishing Powder No.22                            |   | Lead (Toxic heavy metals)                   | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |
| Pony Beauty Soothing & Moisture Aloe Vera 99% Powder + Blusher - 01 |  | Lead (Toxic heavy metals)                   | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |

| Name of product         | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| Poseidon Platinum 10000 |    | Vardenafil (PDE-5 inhibitors)               | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Poseidon Platinum 3500  |   | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| PremierZen Extreme 3000 |  | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)                 | United States Food and Drug Administration |

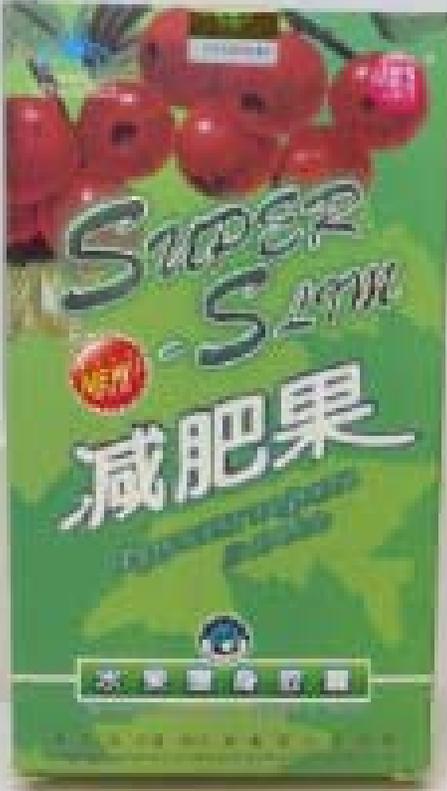
| Name of product                | Picture of product   | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Premier maxxzen Platinum 12000 |   | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Premium OrgaZen 7000           |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product       | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|-----------------------|---|---|--|
| Premier Platinum 5000 |    | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)                 | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| PremierZen Black 5000 |   | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| PremierZen Gold 7000  |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product              | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| PremierZen Platinum 8000     |    | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| QIANXIU I Love Lipstick - 04 |   | Lead (Toxic heavy metals)                   | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |
| Red Spartan 3000             |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

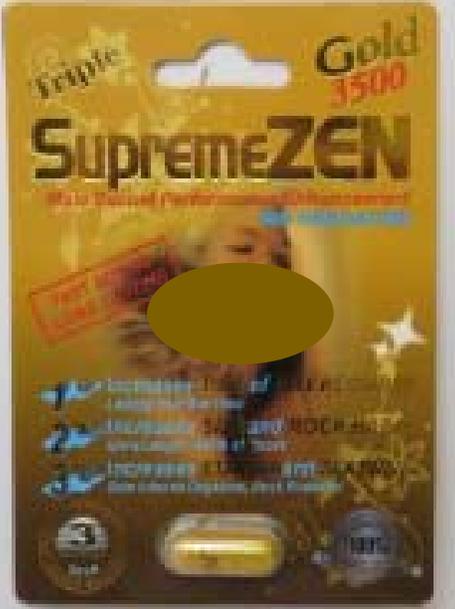
| Name of product      | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|----------------------|---|---|--|
| Rock Steady 72 Hours |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

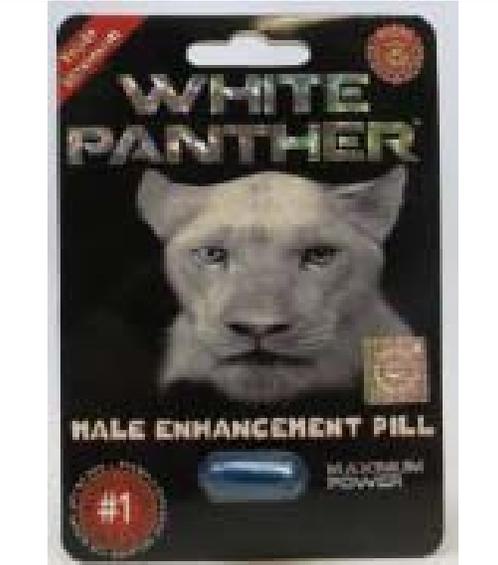
| Name of product                                | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|--|---|-----------------------------|--|
| Romantic May Liquid Matte Lip Gloss & Lipstick |   | Rhodamine B                 | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |
| Royal Honey                                    |  | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product                               | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                 | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Super Slim                                    |   | Sibutramine and Desmethylsibutramine | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| SHISEIDO Soft Powder Smooth and Delicate Skin |  | Lead (Toxic heavy metals)            | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |

| Name of product       | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|-----------------------|---|---|--|
| Shogun-X Black        |    | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)                 | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| The Slim Queen        |   | Sibutramine                                 | Hong Kong Department of Health             |
| The Super Panther 77k |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product          | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)   | Source (Regulatory Agency)                       |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| Thumbs Up 7<br>Black 25K |    | Tadalafil<br>(PDE-5 inhibitor)                                   | United States<br>Food and Drug<br>Administration |
| Thumbs Up 7<br>Blue 69k  |   | Sildenafil and<br>Tadalafil<br>(PDE-5 inhibitors)                | United States<br>Food and Drug<br>Administration |
| Thumbs Up 7<br>Red 70K   |  | Sildenafil,<br>Vardenafil and<br>Tadalafil<br>(PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States<br>Food and Drug<br>Administration |

| Name of product             | Picture of product   | Potent ingredient(s)                                    | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| Thumbs Up 7 White 11K       |   | Sildenafil, Tadalafil and Vardenafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| Triple SupremeZen Gold 3500 |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors)             | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product                                | Picture of product  | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|--|---|---|--|
| Triple SupremeZen Plus 3500                    |    | Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitor)                 | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| VICTORIA'S SECRET 2 in 1 Loose Powder + Powder |   | Lead (Toxic heavy metals)                   | Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports      |
| White Panther                                  |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

| Name of product | Picture of product   | Potent ingredient(s)                        | Source (Regulatory Agency)                 |
|-----------------|--|---|--|
| 3 KO Gold XT    |   | Vardenafil (PDE-5 Inhibitor)                | United States Food and Drug Administration |
| 69MODE Blue 69  |  | Sildenafil and Tadalafil (PDE-5 inhibitors) | United States Food and Drug Administration |

## **Annex B**

### **The possible side effects of the potent ingredients**

#### **Hydroquinone**

Hydroquinone is a potent ingredient used in prescription medicines for the treatment of skin conditions. The ingredient is prohibited in skincare cosmetic products and should only be used under medical supervision, as hydroquinone may cause harmful effects if not used properly. The inappropriate use of hydroquinone could result in changes in skin colour and hypersensitivity reactions such as rashes, redness, tingling and burning of skin.

#### **Methylchloroisothiazolinone (MCI) and Methylisothiazolinone (MI)**

Methylchloroisothiazolinone (MCI) and Methylisothiazolinone (MI) are used as preservatives in water-based cosmetics and personal care products, as well as in industrial products such as paints and adhesives. They are prohibited in leave-on cosmetic products as they can cause chemical burns and have been associated with skin allergic reactions, such as allergic contact dermatitis.

#### **Phenolphthalein**

Phenolphthalein may cause kidney disorders and has been found in animal studies to be associated with cancer. It may also cause breathing difficulties, rashes and abdominal cramps.

#### **Phosphodiesterase Type 5 (PDE-5) inhibitors**

This class of medicine includes sildenafil, tadalafil, and vardenafil. These medicines can cause serious side effects such as strokes, heart attacks, decreased or loss of vision and hearing and priapism (painful and exceedingly long erections). If priapism is not treated immediately, it may lead to permanent impotence. PDE-5 inhibitors are also not suitable for patients with medical conditions such as certain heart-related problems or who are on heart medications such as nitrates. Deaths of patients found to be using Sildenafil (PDE-5 inhibitor) while on nitrates have been reported overseas.

#### **Pigment Orange**

Pigment orange is a colouring agent that is synthetically produced. It may contain heavy metal salts which can penetrate the skin and cause allergic reactions and side effects such as skin irritations, nervous system toxicity and reproductive system disruption.

#### **Rhodamine B**

Rhodamine B is a dye used for printing and dyeing of textiles, paper, paints and leathers. It is prohibited to be used in health products, including cosmetic products, as it may be carcinogenic. It can cause side effects, such as irritation, when in contact with the skin and eyes. Cases of permanent injury to the eye and chemical conjunctivitis due to exposure to the

dye have been documented. When ingested, it may cause gastrointestinal irritation with nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

### **Sibutramine and Desmethylsibutramine**

Sibutramine, previously a prescription weight loss medicine used in the treatment of obesity, has been disallowed for sale in Singapore since 2010 due to increased risk of heart attacks and strokes. The use of sibutramine has been associated with serious side effects, including high blood pressure, irregular heartbeats, hallucinations and mood swings. Desmethyl sibutramine is similar to sibutramine and may have similar side effects.

### **Toxic Heavy Metals**

Consumption of excessive amounts of toxic heavy metals such as lead and mercury poses serious health risks and may increase the chance of poisoning. Exposure to high levels of lead may cause anaemia, weakness, and kidney and brain damage. High levels of mercury may cause kidney injury (e.g. protein in urine and oedema) and affect the nervous system (e.g. numbness, tingling, dizziness, forgetfulness, headaches and depression).

### **Tretinoin**

Tretinoin is a potent ingredient used in prescription medicines for the treatment of skin conditions and should be used under medical supervision. The ingredient is prohibited in skincare cosmetic products. Inappropriate use of tretinoin could lead to side effects such as redness and peeling of skin.