



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY
PRESS RELEASE

26 MAY 2011

HSA FOUND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, THYROID GLAND AND THYROID HORMONES IN “METABOLIC ADVANTAGE”

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) alerts the public that it has found thyroid gland and thyroid hormones, which are controlled substances, in “Metabolic Advantage”. The affected product is labelled as a complementary health product and marketed to enhance thyroid health and support weight loss. Thyroid gland and thyroid hormones are potent substances which could potentially cause adverse effects when consumed without medical supervision. (See Annex A for photograph of product and product labelling).

2 The presence of thyroid gland and thyroid hormones in the affected product was detected and confirmed through HSA’s regular post-market surveillance. To date, no adverse events associated with this product have been reported to HSA. However, as the product has been marketed locally in retail shops, HSA is alerting members of the public who may have this product in their possession to stop consuming it.

3 “Metabolic Advantage” is distributed locally by M/S Fu Fong Trading Pte Ltd/ Protos Trading Pte Ltd and manufactured by “Enzymatic Therapy, Inc.” in the United States. Following HSA’s directions, the distributor has since withdrawn all remaining stocks of the product from the affected retail shops.

4 Thyroid gland and thyroid hormones are substances which are controlled under the Poisons Act and should only be obtained with a doctor’s prescription. Complementary health products are not allowed to contain western medicinal ingredients or substances controlled under the Poisons Act.

Advisory

5 HSA strongly advises anyone who has purchased this product not to consume it. In the event that they have consumed this product, they should seek medical advice if they are feeling unwell or are experiencing any adverse effects, which may include headache, anxiety, palpitations, and increased blood pressure.

6 Says Ms Chan Cheng Leng, Division Director of the Vigilance, Compliance and Enforcement Branch of HSA: “Members of the public who have pre-existing or chronic medical conditions such as cardiovascular conditions or diabetes are advised to consult a healthcare professional before consuming complementary

health products. Members of the public are also advised to seek professional advice when in doubt of whether a complementary health product is suitable for their consumption.”

7 HSA would like to remind dealers that complementary health products are not allowed to contain substances controlled under the Poisons Act. Anyone found guilty under the Poisons Act is liable, on conviction, to a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for a term of up to two years.

8 Consumers may wish to contact HSA’s Enforcement Branch at Tel: 6866 3485 (Monday to Friday) or email hsa_is@hsa.gov.sg if they have information on the sale of similar products.

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▪ About the Health Sciences Authority (HSA)

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) applies medical, pharmaceutical and scientific expertise through its three professional groups, Health Products Regulation, Blood Services, Applied Sciences, to protect and advance national health and safety. HSA is a multidisciplinary authority. It serves as the national regulator for health products, ensuring they are wisely regulated to meet standards of safety, quality and efficacy. It operates the national blood bank, Bloodbank@HSA, securing the nation’s blood supply. It also applies specialised scientific, forensic, investigative and analytical capabilities in serving the administration of justice. For more details, visit <http://www.hsa.gov.sg/>.

▪ About HSA’s Health Products Regulation Group

The Health Products Regulation Group (HPRG) of HSA ensures that drugs, innovative therapeutics, medical devices and health-related products are wisely regulated and meet appropriate safety, quality and efficacy standards.

1. Photograph of product



2. Product Labelling

Labelling in English:

Product name	Metabolic Advantage
Manufacturer / Distributor	Manufacturer: Enzymatic Therapy, Inc., United States of America Local distributor: Fu Fong Trading Pte Ltd / Protos Trading Pte Ltd
Ingredients	Amount per 2 capsules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vitamin B12 (as cyanocobalamin) – 100mcg • Iodine (as potassium iodide) – 200 mcg • Magnesium (as magnesium oxide) – 200mcg • Zinc (as zinc gluconate) – 6mg • Copper (as copper gluconate) – 300mcg • Manganese (as manganese gluconate) – 2.3mg • Molybdenum (as sodium molybdate) – 100 mcg • Sodium – 20 mg • L-Tyrosine – 248 mg • Multi-Glandular Complex (liver, lung, pancreas, heart, kidney and

	spleen) – 70mg • Thyroid (thyroxin-free) – 8mg Other ingredients: modified cellulose gum, gelatine, magnesium state, silicon dioxide and titanium dioxide colour
Indications as on label	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhances thyroid health • Influences metabolism • Supports weight loss
Instruction for dosage	2 capsules to be taken 3 times a day

ANNEX B

About thyroid gland and thyroid hormones

The thyroid gland is responsible for producing thyroid hormones (eg, thyroxine) in the human body and is responsible for day-to-day functions of the body such as controlling metabolic rate, growth, and functioning of other organs in the body. Too much thyroxine in the body will result in symptoms such as weight loss, headache, anxiety, palpitations, increased heart rate and increased blood pressure. Excess thyroxine in the blood can lead to serious consequences such as heart attack or stroke.