

FDA and CBP collaborate to protect public health and safety

The US FDA and US CBP leaders have signed an agreement to maximize inspection and detection capabilities in order to prevent illegal and harmful products entering the U.S. through the nation's International Mail Facilities (IMFs) and Ports of Entry that pose a threat to public health.

Food

- FDA has implemented a new tool, Dietary Supplement Ingredient Advisory List, that helps public and FDA identify ingredients that do not appear to be lawfully marketed in dietary supplements. The list is not exhaustive and will be updated as ingredients are added or removed from it.
- American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has accredited two agencies: SGS North America Inc of Rutherford, NJ and NSF Certification, LLC of Ann Arbor under FDA's Accredited Third-Party Certification Program authorizing them to conduct food safety audits and issue food and facility certifications within the scopes of their programs.

Certifications issued by these Certification bodies can be used by importers to establish eligibility for participation in Voluntary Qualified Importer Program (VQIP).

Drug

FDA has issued final rule (<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm635793.htm>) on safety and effectiveness of OTC hand sanitizers. FDA has deferred the decision on 3 active ingredients which are benzalkonium chloride, ethyl alcohol, and isopropyl alcohol until they are cleared to be on FDA GRAS list. But at this time, FDA does not intend to take action to remove hand sanitizers containing these 3 active ingredients from the market. Ref: <https://www.fdahelp.us/fda-registration-hand-sanitizer.html>

Medical Devices

FDA has issued warning against the use of pre-owned home use test strips that are available on online market places such as Amazon, eBay and Craigslist. Pre-owned test strips may potentially cause infection or lead to inaccurate test results, which can cause serious harm, including death.

Cosmetics

FDA has issued warning letters to several cosmetic companies marketing products in US with unapproved drug claims such as cellulite reduction, stretch mark reduction, wrinkle removal, and hair restoration.



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