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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-112//
TO AIG 4905
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UNCLAS //N06010//
SUBJ: HOMEOPATHIC, OVER-THE-COUNTER (OTC) HUMAN CHORIONIC GONADOTROPIN
(HCG) ALERT A. COAST GUARD MEDICAL MANUAL, COMDTINST 6000.1 (SERIES) B.
COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 222045Z DEC 10 ALCOAST 605/10 1. THE UNITED
STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) AND FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
(FTC) HAVE ISSUED WARNING LETTERS TO COMPANIES MARKETING OTC HCG PRODUCTS
THAT ARE LABELED AS HOMEOPATHIC FOR WEIGHT LOSS, STATING THAT THEIR SALE
IS ILLEGAL DUE TO LACK OF APPROVAL FOR THIS USE AND UNSUPPORTED CLAIMS OF
BENEFITS. NO HCG PRODUCTS ARE FDA APPROVED FOR WEIGHT LOSS.
2. HCG IS A HUMAN FEMALE HORMONE PRODUCED DURING PREGNANCY. HCG IS FDA-
APPROVED AS AN INJECTABLE PRESCRIPTION DRUG FOR THE TREATMENT OF SOME
CASES OF FEMALE INFERTILITY AND OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS. THE COAST GUARD
IS NOT AUTHORIZED, PER REFERENCE (A) TO DISPENSE PRESCRIPTION HCG
PRODUCTS.
3. REFERENCE (B) PROVIDES CLARIFICATION ON THE WRONGFUL USE AND POSSESSION
OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES WHICH POSE SIGNIFICANT RISK TO THE SAFETY,
READINESS, DISCIPLINE, MORALE, AND HEALTH OF COAST GUARD MEMBERS.
4. THE FDA ADVISES CONSUMERS WHO HAVE PURCHASED HOMEOPATHIC HCG FOR WEIGHT
LOSS TO STOP USING IT AND DISPOSE OF IT APPROPRIATELY.
HARMFUL SIDE EFFECTS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE FDA BY PHONE AT
800-332-1088 AND TO THE MEMBERS HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.
5. MEMBERS WANTING TO LOSE WEIGHT SHOULD BE ADVISED TO CONTACT THEIR
HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OR HEALTH PROMOTION MANAGER. ADDITIONALLY, MEMBERS
SHOULD BE ADVISED TO USE THE MIND AND BODY PROGRAM, A COAST GUARD
SPONSORED ON LINE AND TELEPHONIC WEIGHT LOSS BEHAVIORAL CHANGE
PROGRAM: HTTP://WWW.MINDBODY.NET/USCG/ABOUT.
6. POCS FOR THIS MESSAGE: HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WORK-LIFE (HSWL) SERVICE
CENTER (SC), CDR ANDY MEAGHER, 757-628-4338, ANDREW.K.MEAGHER(AT)USCG.MIL
AND COMDT (CG-111), MR. TIM MERRELL, 202-475-5146,
TIMOTHY.M.MERRELL(AT)USCG.MIL 7. DR. ROBERT R. MILLER, ACTING CHIEF,
OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES SENDS.
8. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.
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