

PRESS RELEASE
SALE OF UNREGISTERED PRODUCT: 'AMBERINE CAPSULE'

The public is advised to avoid buying and using a traditional product, '**Amberine capsule**' with registration number **MAL06021239T** which is traditionally used for general well being and body health. The product registration holder for 'Amberine capsule' is **Sne Marketing Sdn Bhd** and the manufacturer is **Nature`s Grace (M) Sdn. Bhd.**

The product registration for 'Amberine capsule' has been cancelled by the Drug Control Authority (DCA) at its 228th meeting on 27 May 2010 following the detection of scheduled poison, metformin and sibutramine. Metformin and sibutramine are not allowed to be formulated in a product which is classified as a traditional product.

Metformin and sibutramine can only be supplied by doctors or available at pharmacies upon a prescription. The usage of metformin and sibutramine without proper diagnosis and monitoring by the doctor can cause serious adverse events. Metformin may reduce blood glucose (hypoglycaemic) and cause decreased renal function while some of the side effects of sibutramine are increase in blood pressure and other cardiovascular effects. Hence, this product can cause detrimental effects to consumers who are at high risk of getting these adverse events.

Since this product is confirmed to be adulterated with metformin dan sibutramine, the public is advised to stop using it and they can seek further advice from healthcare professionals if needed.

Anyone who is in possession of this product is advised to immediately cease selling, distributing or using it. Sellers are reminded that possession for sale of this product is an offence under the Control of Drugs and Cosmetics Regulations 1984. Any individual who commits an offence under these regulations can be fined up to a maximum of RM25,000 or a jail sentence not exceeding 3 years or both for the first offence, and for a subsequent offence, a fine up to a maximum of RM50,000 or a jail sentence not exceeding 5 years or both. A company found guilty can be fined up to RM50,000 for the first offence and fined up to a maximum of RM100,000 for a subsequent offence.