

**Food and Drug Administration** 

January 11, 2006

Ref. No. 06-02-UTL

## <u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

William R. Deagle, MD NutriMedical, Inc. 6460 E. Yale Ave Unit E-80 Box 20 Denver, Colorado 80222

Dear Dr. Deagle:

This is to advise you that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has reviewed your web site at the Internet address <a href="http://www.nutrimedical.com">http://www.nutrimedical.com</a> and has determined that the products "ANTI-MUTAGENS Carcer [sic] Protection Formula," "Lipase Inhibitor Blocks Fat Digestion 60 tabs Extract From Rice Bran 10 mg," and "BioFocus Whey Chocolate for Adults ADD Support" are promoted for conditions that cause the products to be drugs under section 201(g)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act) [21 U.S.C. § 321(g)(1)]. The therapeutic claims on your web site establish that the products are drugs because they are intended for use in the cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease. The marketing of these products with these claims violates the Act.

Examples of some of the claims observed on your web site include:

## ANTI-MUTAGENS Carcer [sic] Protection Formula

"This herbal nutraceutical combines the best of well researched anti-cancer nutrients. They stimulate phase one and two detoxification and packaging of ... cancer inducing molescules [sic] to be removed from the body."

The product name also promotes the product for use in preventing and treating cancer.

This product, among others, is listed in the Medical Conditions section of your website as one of the "product options" for cancer prevention and survival.

## Lipase Inhibitor Blocks Fat Digestion 60 tabs Extract From Rice Bran 10 mg

"Prevents fat digestion for aid in ... obesity conditons [sic] and diabetes."

## **BioFocus Whey Chocolate for Adults ADD Support**

The term "ADD Support" in the product name promotes the product for use in mitigating and treating ADD (attention deficit disorder).

This product, among others, is listed in the Medical Conditions section of your website as one of the "product options" for ADD.

Furthermore, your products are not generally recognized as safe and effective for the above referenced conditions and therefore, the products are also "new drugs" under section 201(p) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 321(p)]. New drugs may not be legally marketed in the U.S. without prior approval from FDA as described in section 505(a) of the Act [21 U.S.C. § 355(a)]. FDA approves a new drug on the basis of scientific data submitted by a drug sponsor to demonstrate that the drug is safe and effective.

In addition, under the "Medical Conditions" section of your web site, you offer other products for prevention, treatment, mitigation or cure of various diseases. Examples of the disease categories for which you offer products include (in addition to those mentioned above): "Allergy," "Alzheimers and Dementia," "Arthritis," "Asthma," "Coronary and Peripheral Artery Disease," "Diabetic Retinopathy," and "Osteoporosis and Osteopenia." Marketing your products for these uses causes them to be drugs under section 201(g)(1) of the Act.

FDA is aware that Internet distributors may not know that the products they offer are regulated as drugs or that these drugs are not in compliance with the law. Many of these products may be legally marketed as dietary supplements if claims about diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention are removed from the promotional materials and the products otherwise comply with all applicable provisions of the Act and FDA regulations. With regard to your BioFocus Whey Chocolate for Adults ADD Support product and other products described on your website as "hypo-allergenic meal replacements," please note that products represented for use as a meal replacement do not meet the definition of a dietary supplement in section 201(ff) of the Act [21 U.S.C. §321(ff)] and may not be marketed as such.

Under the Act, as amended by the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act, dietary supplements may be legally marketed with truthful and non-misleading claims to affect the structure or function of the body (structure/function claims), if certain requirements are met. However, claims that dietary supplements are intended to prevent, diagnose, mitigate, treat, or cure disease (disease claims), excepting health claims authorized for use by FDA, cause the products to be drugs. The intended use of a product may be established through product labels and labeling, catalogs, brochures, audio and videotapes, Internet sites, or other circumstances surrounding the distribution of the product. FDA has published a final rule intended to clarify the distinction between structure/function claims and disease claims. This document is available on the Internet at <a href="http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/fr000106.html">http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/fr000106.html</a> (codified at 21 C.F.R. § 101.93(g)).

In addition, only products that are intended for ingestion may be lawfully marketed as dietary supplements. Topical products and products intended to enter the body directly through the skin or mucosal tissues, such as transdermal or sublingual products, are not dietary supplements. For these products, both disease and structure/function claims may cause them to be new drugs.

Certain over-the-counter drugs are not new drugs and may be legally marketed without prior approval from FDA. Additional information is available in Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations (21 C.F.R.) Parts 310 and 330-358, which contain FDA's regulations on over-the-counter drugs.

This letter is not intended to be an all-inclusive review of your web site and products your firm markets. It is your responsibility to ensure that all products marketed by your firm comply with the Act and its implementing regulations.

If you need additional information or have questions concerning any products distributed through your web site, please contact FDA. You may respond in writing to Shelly L. Maifarth, Compliance Officer at the Food and Drug Administration, Denver Federal Center, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Kipling,

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Building 20, Entrance W-10, P.O. Box 25087, Denver, Colorado, 80225-0087. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Ms. Maifarth at (303) 236-3046.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

B. Belinda Collins District Director