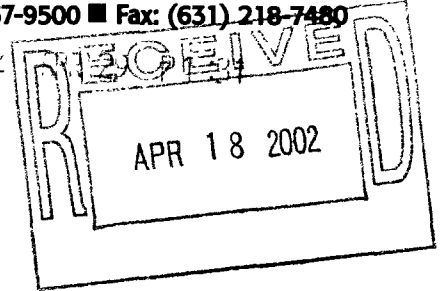




90 Orville Drive, Bohemia, NY 11716-2510 ■ Phone: (631) 567-9500 ■ Fax: (631) 218-7480

8913 32



Office of Nutritional Products
Labeling & Dietary Supplements
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Food and Drug Administration
5100 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20740-3835

March 22, 2002

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter will serve as a 30 day notification pursuant to Section 6 of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 that NBTY Inc. is using the following statements on the Zinc Gluconate supplements under the Duane Reade brand name.

- Helps Maintain the Immune System
- Zinc is involved in carbohydrate, protein, fat and energy metabolism and helps support the immune system.
- As an important mineral, Zinc is also essential for cell division and growth.

The above statements are accompanied by the required disclaimer pursuant to Section 6 of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act.

Sincerely,

Ona Scandurra, MS, RD
Director of Nutrition Communications

OS/tk

97S 0162 LET 9812

80142