



DIRECTOR-GENERAL STATEMENT UNDER THE FOOD ACT 1981

Issued at 5pm on 23 October 2013

The Acting Director-General of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), Scott Gallacher, for the purpose of section 37 of the Food Act 1981, issues the following statement:

MPI has been notified of a potential food safety issue regarding sports and dietary supplements labelled OxyELITE Pro, which are produced by USP Labs LLC of Dallas, Texas, and are sold in New Zealand through the internet and in some sports supplement stores.

The food safety issue relates to a warning issued by the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) to consumers not to use the products, due to a potential link between the use of the products and a number of cases of acute non-viral hepatitis in the United States of America.

The FDA warning is available here:

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/RecallsOutbreaksEmergencies/Outbreaks/ucm370849.htm>

Information from Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) is available here:

<http://www.foodstandards.govt.nz/media/Pages/Alert-US-investigation-into-dietary-supplements.aspx>

MPI is working with the USFDA and FSANZ to obtain additional information. Until more information is available, I am taking a cautionary approach and advising people to not consume OxyElite Pro sports and dietary supplement products.

MPI is aware of one non-viral hepatitis case in New Zealand, with no current known cause, arising in a consumer of OxyELITE products. That case is still under investigation.

I will provide further updates as soon as more information becomes available.

If you have any concerns about these products, please call MPI's consumer helpline on 0800 683 721. If you have any health concerns please seek medical advice, see your GP or call Healthline on 0800 611 116.

Scott Gallacher
Acting Director-General
Ministry for Primary Industries

MPI Media Phone 029 894 0328