Dear Readers,

Please find below the latest Food, Cosmetics, and Nutraceuticals Committee’s FCN Digest. Every other week, the FCN Digest will provide you with significant developments and updates in the food, cosmetics, and nutraceuticals arena. Please feel free to contact us at the listed email addresses with any questions, comments, or contributions that you may have regarding the FCN Digest.

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**FOOD**

Food Safety Modernization Act Update: FDA Issues Final Guidance for Voluntary Qualified Importer Program.
The FDA has released final industry guidance to support compliance with its Voluntary Qualified Importer Program. This program aims to facilitate the expedited review and importation of foods from importers who achieve and maintain a high level of control over the safety and security of their supply chains. This control includes: (1) importation of food from facilities that have been certified in accordance with FDA’s program for Accreditation of Third-Party Certification Bodies to Conduct Food Safety Audits and to Issue Certifications and (2) other measures that support a high level of confidence in the safety and security of the food they import. The release of this final guidance represents the latest in a slew of FSMA related guidance documents issued by FDA over the past several weeks.


**COSMETICS**

Regulating Personal Care Products.
The bipartisan Personal Care Products Safety Act currently inching its way through Congress would amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and may help rectify what some critics see as the failure of the law to grant the FDA serious oversight of cosmetic products. The bill would require the FDA to review the safety of at least 5 ingredients in personal care products each year. The first 5 would be lead acetate, a hair dye additive; formaldehyde, a known carcinogen used in hair straightening; and 3 endocrine disruptors used in shampoo, conditioners, bubble bath, and deodorant. Companies would be required to report adverse events within 15 days to the FDA, which would also have mandatory recall authority.


**NUTRACEUTICALS**

Nutraceuticals to Supplement Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Therapies: Fact of Fiction?
Researchers from Australia recently reviewed experimental and clinical data from multiple research projects and clinical trials in an attempt to determine whether nutraceutical supplements could benefit or prolong the health of Duchenne MD patients. The findings suggest that some of these alternative products could potentially be a valuable complementary therapy for DMD due to their anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory properties. Muscle pathology goes hand-in-hand with increased inflammation and oxidative stress because of the immune system involvement. These conditions, when exacerbated can impact DMD onset and disease progression.


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