

Public Warning under s94A of the Health Care Complaints Act – Concerning levels of heavy metals in Ayurvedic medication

18 September 2020

Public Warning under s94a of the Health Care Complaints Act 1993: concerning levels of heavy metals in Ayurvedic Medication.

[https://www.hccc.nsw.gov.au/decisions-orders/public-statements-and-warnings/public-warning-under-s94a-of-the-health-care-complaints-act-concerning-levels-of-heavy-metals-in-ayurvedic-medication]

The NSW Health Care Complaints Commission is concerned about a complaint received regarding the prescription of "Manasamithra Vatika," (Manasamitram Pills) an Ayurvedic medication.

The complaint related to prescription of this medication to a child for treatment of autism.

This medication was found to contain concerning levels of lead and other heavy metals.

Clients who are considered to have been placed at risk have now been contacted by NSW Health public health personnel.

If you think you may have consumed this medication please contact your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055.

There is also close liaison with NSW Health, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) who also have regulatory responsibilities relating to this matter.

What should consumers do to protect themselves?

The Commission strongly urges those individuals seeking alternative therapies to be vigilant in their research prior to proceeding with any natural therapy medications or medicines and to discuss any such proposed therapies with their treating <u>registered</u> health practitioner.

Individuals can check to see if a practitioner is registered in Australia through the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) website at www.ahpra.gov.au

Individuals can also check the website at https://www.tga.gov.au/ to see whether medications or medicines have been approved by the TGA.

Further Information

For further information, contact the Executive Officer of the Health Care Complaints Commission, on 9219 7444 or send an email to media@hccc.nsw.gov.au

The information in this media release is correct at the time of publication. Orders may change; for example, conditions may no longer apply. For current information regarding the status of a registered health practitioner, including any conditions that currently apply, please check the National Register.