Council for Responsible Nutrition

The Science Behind the Supplements

What's on the Horizon for Dietary Supplement Regulation & Oversight

January 8, 2018

Presented by Rend Al-Mondhiry Associate General Counsel

Dietary supplements are regulated as food



Adverse Event Reporting

Claims

Good Manufacturing Practices No pre-market approval

BACKGROUND: DIETARY SUPPLEMENT REGULATION

 The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 (DSHEA) established the first legal framework specifically for dietary supplements.



- Definition of "dietary supplement."
- Provided FDA with additional enforcement authority, including the ability to remove adulterated (unsafe) products from the market.
- Authorized FDA to establish Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs).
- Allowed use of "structure/function" claims.
- Premarket notification of "new" dietary ingredients (NDIs).



WHAT IS A DIETARY SUPPLEMENT?

DSHEA defined "dietary supplement" as a product intended to supplement the diet that contains one, or any combination, of the following substances:



- (A) vitamin;
- (B) mineral;
- (C) herb or other botanical;
- (D) amino acid;

(E) dietary substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake; or,

(F) concentrate, metabolite, constituent, or extract of any of these ingredients.



CONSUMER USAGE

Or, as we like to say,

"MORE THAN **170 MILLION** AMERICANS"

76%

of Americans take dietary supplements





DIETARY SUPPLEMENT REGULATION

1. The ingredients are **safe**.

2. The ingredients are **effective**—the product does what the marketer says it will do.



3. The product is manufactured in a manner that assures **quality**.

4. The product is **monitored** in the marketplace.





FACT

The Food & Drug Administration (FDA) regulates dietary supplements / Safety Quality Labeling





About the Regulation

Regulated as a category of food Intentionally different than drug regulation Supplements are not drugs and cannot claim to treat, prevent, or cure disease FDA inspects manufacturing facilities FDA has authority to remove unsafe products, do recalls, and close facilities Mandatory serious adverse event reporting to FDA required by law





FACT

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) regulates supplement advertising

Advertising **must be truthful** and <u>not</u> misleading Advertisers must have **adequate substantiation** for all objective product claims <u>before</u> disseminating an ad



STATE REGULATION

 Many states have statutes modeled after the Federal Food, Drug, & Cosmetic Act (FD&CA).



- In areas where there is not express preemption or a clear conflict, states can enact additional laws and regulations.
 - States expressly prohibited from adopting nutritional labeling requirements that are not identical to the FD&CA § 403A(a) and FDA's implementing regulations.
 - The Biotech Labeling Solutions Act (July 2016) requires labeling of genetically modified ingredients and prevents states from doing the same.



RECENT STATE LEGISLATION

- Recent state legislation has targeted the sales to minors of creatine, weight-loss products, and energy drinks.
- Also restrictions on ingredients like pure powdered caffeine and synthetic food dyes, and packaging (requiring a tether between plastic bottles and their caps).



STATE REGULATION

- The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, known as Proposition 65.
 - Ballot initiative in 1986; requires a "person doing business" in the state to provide a "clear and reasonable warning" for exposures to certain chemicals; applies to dietary supplements and other foods.
- Manufacturers can shift the burden to warn to retailers.
- New regulations require a warning prior to purchase.
 - Applies to both brick-andmortar and internet retail sites.

WARNING: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer.

WARNING: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.



STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL

 State Attorneys General have broad jurisdiction to regulate, especially in the area of consumer protection/fraud.



- Example of recent enforcement actions:
 - NY AG investigation involving four retailers and storebrand herbal supplements (Feb. 2015).
 - Led to the formation of a still-active bipartisan state AG working group on supplements.
 - VT and OR AG investigation into the sale of products containing BMPEA and picamilon.
 - OR AG lawsuit against GNC ongoing.
- Collaboration with FTC
 - Three joint actions with ME AG; additional actions with CT and NY AGs .



IMPACT OF NEW ADMINISTRATION

Possible new regulatory landscape

- FDA Commissioner Gottlieb focused on opioid crisis and drug approval process.
- Exec. Order aimed at regulatory rollback.
- Concerns about food safety rollout (global and domestic), lack of enforcement (FDA, FTC).
- Democratic State AGs taking an activist role; ready to step in if they perceive lack of federal enforcement.
- Not only targeting manufacturers, but also retailers.





WHAT'S AHEAD?



- Class actions fueled by increased calls for transparency: country of origin, level of processing, the presence or absence of ingredients (GMOs, fiber, e.g.).
 - Growing Proposition 65 list, plus new warning regulations effective in August 2018.
- New Nutrition/Supplement Facts Label
 - Industry concerns regarding the definition of fiber and disclosure of added sugar.
- Increased focus on ingredients of concern
 - Quality assurance/identity testing protocols for complex ingredients, like herbs and botanicals that go beyond the minimum federal requirements.
 - Weight-loss, bodybuilding, and sexual enhancement products.
- Continued interest from State AGs and State Legislatures



BOTTOM LINE: Compliance is a shared responsibility REGULATORS RETAILERS INDUSTRY



CRN's Mission . . .

...to sustain and enhance a climate for our members to responsibly develop, manufacture, and market dietary supplements, functional food and their nutritional ingredients.



CRN SELF-REGULATORY INITIATIVES

- Code of Ethics
- Voluntary Guidelines/Best Practices:
 - ✓ Iodine in prenatal vitamins
 - ✓ Melatonin
 - ✓ Caffeine
 - ✓ Probiotics
 - Enzymes
 - ✓ Safe upper levels
- CRN/NAD Initiative

- Joint Activities:
 - Standardized Information on Dietary Ingredients (SIDI) Protocol
 - ✓ Supplement **OWL**®
- Resources:
 - ✓ FDA Warning Letters Database
 - ✓ FTC Warning Letters Compilation
 - ✓ National Advertising Division (NAD) Decisions Compilation

THE VOICE OF RESPONSIBLE INDUSTRY



Dietary Supplement Industry and U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Warn Consumers about Dangerous, Illegal Ingredients Known as SARMs– Groups support strict enforcement

action by FDA



A Mislabeled Product Is an Illegal Product



INCREASED TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

Guiding Principles of CRN:

- No response will solve all the issues being raised or pacify all the industry's critics.
- Focus on measures that allow responsible companies to distinguish themselves from less reputable firms can help consumers navigate the marketplace and solidify confidence in reputable companies.
- Viable proposals must have widespread support and agreement within the industry.
- Whatever policies or proposals are advanced may require some sacrifice and additional burdens on companies.
- Collaboration with regulators and retailers, and other third-party stakeholders.



TAKEAWAYS FOR RETAILERS

Know the law, know your regulators.



 Monitor industry developments, and FDA and FTC activity

December 2017 **CRN: The Short Report**

 Utilize industry selfregulatory initiatives.

http://www.crnusa.org/roadmap-retailers-whatyou-can-and-cannot-say-about-supplements



THANKYOU!

Rend Al-Mondhiry 202-204-7672 ral-mondhiry@crnusa.org

www.crnusa.org

