



Source: Gifu Prefectural Government, July 3, 2019

Be Aware of Health Food Products Containing Pharmaceutical Elements

The Gifu Prefectural Government has analyzed the elements of health food products which were suspected of containing pharmaceutical elements and found that one of the health food products contained two pharmaceutical elements, sibutramine and phenolphthalein.

Health food products that contain pharmaceutical elements are deemed to be pharmaceutical products. It is prohibited to manufacture and/or sell pharmaceutical products without obtaining approval from the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare in accordance with the Act on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Products Including Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices.

1 Outline of the Product

- (1) Name: Golean DETOX
- (2) Shape: Capsule
- (3) Appearance: See the attached picture
- (4) Elements found: 9 mg of "sibutramine" and 30 mg of "phenolphthalein" in one capsule of the product

○Sibutramine

Although some countries abroad have approved it as a pharmaceutical, it has not been approved in Japan.

Application: Treatment for obesity

Side effects: Increase in blood pressure, heart rate, headache, dry mouth, constipation, rhinitis and others

○Phenolphthalein

One of the pH indicators that turns red when base elements are applied. It used to be used as a pharmaceutical for diarrhea, but it is not currently used as a pharmaceutical due to the risk of carcinogenesis.

<Notice to people of the prefecture>

In the prefecture, some have reported health damage such as high blood pressure, palpitations, dry mouth, feelings of weakness and nausea that may have been caused by this health food product. Sufferers have been diagnosed at a medical institution.

Stop using this product immediately if you are using it, and take a medical check at a medical institution as soon as possible if you suspect health damage caused by this product.

