



IASC Update

Korea FDA Warns Against A(H₁N₁) Claims, Notes aloe vera Is One of Only Four Ingredients Allowed to Claim Immune System Enhancement

September 24, 2009 – IASC members may be interested in an article published last week by Korea’s JoonAng Daily regarding the Health Ministry’s relaxing of rules on schools in regards to the A(H₁N₁) flu due to the viruses spread across the country. In the article, it was stated that aloe vera is one of the four food ingredients approved to make immune system enhancement, and also warned food material manufacturers against making disease claims, particularly in regards to the A(H₁N₁) flu.

“Also, the Korea Food and Drug Administration yesterday warned against some food and drug products promoted as effective against the new flu. The agency, which is under the Health Ministry, said only four food ingredients - ginseng, red ginseng, aloe vera and shark liver oil - can be advertised as enhancing the immune system. The agency said even those four materials cannot be 100 percent reliable.

“Prevention and treatment of a specific disease belongs to medicine. Just because a food material has been recognized as effective, promoting it as a means of preventing A(H1N1) flu is against the law,” said a KFDA spokesman. “

A link to the full article is provided here:

<http://joongangdaily.joins.com/article/view.asp?aid=2910270>