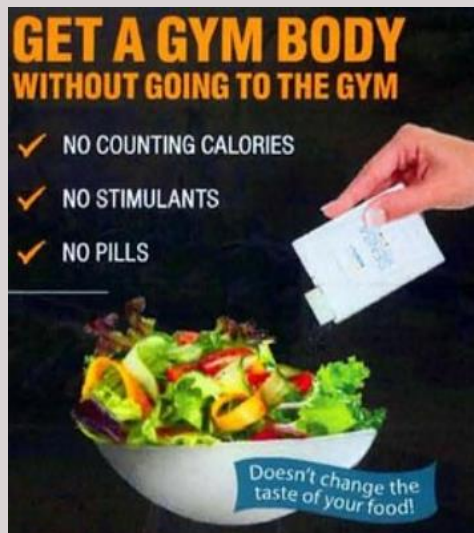


AVOID HEALTH FRAUD SCAMS



SCV Computer Club
May 10, 2017
Info from FDA websites

What is a Health Fraud Scam?

- Way to fool people about health products
- May not be what they are advertised
- Offer a quick fix
- Bombard us with deceptive marketing
- Sounds too good to be true
- Probably a scam



Who Do They Target?

- All of us!
- Can be found everywhere
 - *Internet*
 - *TV infomercials and radio*
 - *Magazines and newspapers*
 - *Direct Mail*
 - *Unsolicited E-mails*

What Do They Cover?

- Weight loss
- Memory loss
- Sexual performance
- Joint pain
- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Heart disease
- HIV/AIDS
- Arthritis
- Alzheimers

Red Flags



- Miraculous Cure
- Quick Fix
- Ancient Remedy
- New Discovery
- Scientific Breakthrough
- Secret Ingredient



- Natural Cure
- Shrinks Tumors
- Lowers Blood Sugar
- Quick and Painless Cure
- No-risk Money Back Guarantee



Be Careful

- Don't take an unproven or little known treatment
- Products for weight loss, etc. may contain harmful drugs or chemicals not listed on label
- Talk to your doctor or healthcare professional
- Especially when taking prescription drugs



Don't be Fooled

- Claims to cure a wide-range of unrelated diseases
 - *Probably a scam*
- No one product can treat or cure many different illnesses
- Don't pay attention to:
 - *Friends*
 - *Family*
 - *Coworkers*

Don't be Fooled

- The person they heard from might have been paid to spread the word
- Personal testimonials by “real” people or “doctors” played by actors claiming amazing results
- Can be a tip off it's a scam
- Never give our personal information including Medicare ID # in exchange for free offer

Report a Problem

Non-emergency FDA-regulated problem

- Contact consumer complaint coordinator in geographic area
- Call 888 463 6332
- OR visit
 - *<https://www.fda.gov/Safety/ReportaProblem/default.htm>*



Report a Problem

FTC about misleading ads or websites for health products

- Call 877 FTC HELP (877 382 4357)
- Or visit
 - *<https://www.ftc.gov/complaint>*



Questions???