



Health
Canada

Health Products
and Food Branch

Santé
Canada

Direction générale des produits
de santé et des aliments

Marketed Health Products Directorate
A.L. 1912C
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1A 0K9

File: 19-101504-117

May 2, 2019

Dear Fire Marshals,

Re: Illegal Marketing of Infrared Saunas to Fire Departments with False Cancer Prevention Claims

Health Canada would like to alert you to the illegal sale and marketing of infrared saunas to fire departments for unproven and false medical claims such as prevention of cancer amongst fire fighters and detoxification of fire fighters. Health Canada has discovered that at least two Canadian fire departments have acquired them for the aforementioned purposes. We are also concerned that the issue may be more widespread.

Health Canada assesses devices for their safety, quality and effectiveness before issuing a licence. Devices that are not licensed have not been assessed. Health Canada requests that you inform the fire departments in your province that Health Canada has **not** authorized for sale any infrared saunas as medical devices. Health Canada also invites fire departments to report any marketing of infrared saunas for medical purposes that they may encounter at drug-device-marketing@canada.ca.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, or if you wish to confirm the authorized uses for any device that has been marketed to you for medical purposes.

Sincerely,

Alain G. Musende, PhD
Manager, Section for Transparency and Advertising
Regulatory Surveillance
Marketed Health Products Directorate
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