



**ASIA-PACIFIC SELF-MEDICATION INDUSTRY**  
ITOHP1A IWAMOTOCHO 1-CHOME BLDG. 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
1-8-15, IWAMOTOCHO, CHIYODA-KU, TOKYO 101-0032, JAPAN

# ***APSMI NEWSLETTER***

## ***July 2023***

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## World Topics

### **Malaysia-Indonesia Cooperation Facilitates Halal Products To Enter Both Markets**

Indonesia and Malaysia signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on halal certification schemes on June 8. In this MoC conclusion, Indonesia's BPJPH (Halal Product Assurance Agency) and Malaysia's JAKIM (Malaysian Islamic Development Authority) agreed to encourage and promote technical cooperation on conformity assessment procedures for issuing halal certification and certification. From now on, Halal certificates issued by BPJPH and JAKIM respectively will be mutually recognized for products traded in both countries.

The detail information is available at the following article:

<https://borneotoday.net/malaysia-indonesia-cooperation-facilitates-halal-products-to-enter-both-markets/>

### **The 2022 Annual OIC Halal Economy Report:**

Halal Economy Annual Report was published by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

The report is available at the following URL:

<https://icdt-cidc.org/annual-oic-halal-economy-report-2022/>

### **EMA revises guidance on nitrosamine impurities**

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) updated its Guidance on Nitrosamine Impurities in Human Medicines July 7, amending Q&A 10 and adding three appendices (Appendix 1, Annex 2, and Annex 3).

The updated guidance is available at the following URL:

[https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/referral/nitrosamines-emea-h-a53-1490-questions-answers-marketing-authorisation-holders/applicants-chmp-opinion-article-53-regulation-ec-no-726/2004-referral-nitrosamine-impurities-human-medicinal-products\\_en.pdf](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/referral/nitrosamines-emea-h-a53-1490-questions-answers-marketing-authorisation-holders/applicants-chmp-opinion-article-53-regulation-ec-no-726/2004-referral-nitrosamine-impurities-human-medicinal-products_en.pdf)

### **WHO: Aspartame hazard and risk assessment results released**

Assessments of the health impacts of the non-sugar sweetener aspartame are released today by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA). Citing "limited evidence" for carcinogenicity in



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humans, IARC classified aspartame as possibly carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 2B) and JECFA reaffirmed the acceptable daily intake of 40 mg/kg body weight.

Detail information is available at the following URL:

<https://www.iarc.who.int/news-events/aspartame-hazard-and-risk-assessment-results-released/>

#### **US FDA: FDA Approves First Nonprescription Daily Oral Contraceptive**

On July 13 2023, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Opill (norgestrel) tablet for nonprescription use to prevent pregnancy— the first daily oral contraceptive approved for use in the U.S. without a prescription. Approval of this progestin-only oral contraceptive pill provides an option for consumers to purchase oral contraceptive medicine without a prescription at drug stores, convenience stores and grocery stores, as well as online.

Detail information is available at the following URL:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFDA/bulletins/3650696>

#### **Singapore: Enrolment for preventive care strategy Healthier SG to start on July 5**

All eligible Singapore citizens and permanent residents will, from Wednesday, be able to register for the Republic's preventive care strategy Healthier SG.

Enrolment will start with those aged 60 years and above, with those aged 40 to 59 being able to do so later.

Detail information is available at the following URL:

<https://www.healthiersg.gov.sg/>