

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Statement Of CSPI Legal Affairs Director Bruce Silverglade
On The FDA's Consumer Advisory On Kava-containing Supplements**

We are pleased that the Food and Drug Administration moved today to warn the public of the dangers presented by the dietary supplement kava. This is a product that has been linked to very serious liver problems, including hepatitis and cirrhosis — and should probably not be on the market at all.

We urge all consumers who have experienced adverse symptoms after consuming products containing kava to report their cases to the FDA immediately, and we urge consumers to steer clear of kava altogether unless directed otherwise by a physician.

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The Centre for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) is a nonprofit health-advocacy group based in Washington, D.C., that focuses on nutrition and food safety. CSPI is supported largely by the 800,000 U.S. and Canadian subscribers to its Nutrition Action Healthletter and by foundation grants.