

Buyer Beware, Vitamins & Supplements Not Created Equal: Doctor Offers Pharmaceutical-Grade Products

Doctors can help patients avoid the potential health risks of poor quality discount store vitamins and supplements by offering pharmaceutical-grade products that are available only through licensed healthcare professionals. The Ageless & Wellness Medical Center explains their approach, in response to the Feb 3, 2015 Associated Press article about the New York State Attorney's office investigation into the authenticity of herbal supplements sold in some major retailers.

Jacksonville Beach, Florida ([PRWEB](#)) February 06, 2015 -- "Imagine your shock when you discover that the supplements you took during cold season are tested by a lab, and contain none of the ingredients listed. Not only did you catch every cold that was going around, you also lost sick days at work -- not to mention the money you wasted on bogus supplements," says Dr. C.W. Randolph, Jr., M.D., of the [Ageless and Wellness Medical Center](#). According to a February 3, 2015, [article from the Associated Press](#), the New York State Attorney's office has discovered through DNA-testing hundreds of store-brand herbal supplements that four out of five did not contain the herbs listed on the bottle. Even worse, some contained allergens and contaminants.

In the case of drugs, federal oversight from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) helps ensure that your medicine contains everything it claims to, but vitamin products are not regulated like food or drugs. "Unfortunately, it's a case of 'buyer beware,'" says Dr. Randolph, "and that is why every vitamin or supplement we recommend to our patients is available from companies that test extensively for purity, authenticity, and efficacy." Dr. Randolph and his team of clinicians often prescribe supplements to support overall health and to balance hormones along with bioidentical hormone replacement therapy (BHRT).

"A good-quality supplement is an important part of a comprehensive approach to healthcare," says Dr. Lori Ann Leaseburge, one of the physicians on Dr. Randolph's team. She shares her experience working as a Registered Dietician prior to medical school: "I frequently tell patients, supplements are just that: an addition to your diet, not a replacement for healthy foods and good nutrition. So if you're going to supplement, choose wisely." Dr. Randolph draws on his professional training and experience as a compounding pharmacist prior to medical school to establish specific criteria for all the vitamins and supplements recommended by the clinicians at the Ageless and Wellness Medical Center. "High-quality pharmaceutical-grade supplements offer the best 'medicine' for our patients," says Dr. Randolph.

Dissatisfied with the inconsistency and poor quality of vitamins available in big box stores and grocery chains, Dr. Randolph and his team now offer pharmaceutical-grade vitamins and supplements only available to licensed healthcare professionals. Dr. Randolph developed his own line of unique formulations which are manufactured by [Xymogen](#), one of the leading companies producing supplements under a highly-controlled process to ensure that the raw materials and finished product have consistent purity and potency. "Not only does a company like Xymogen follow the FDA's Good Manufacturing Practices, they also do third-party testing and have earned certification with [NSF International](#)," says Dr. Randolph. "This is not the first time that the [dietary supplement] industry has come under fire for products with fillers and contaminants. Working closely with our manufacturer is how we get the safest supplements at the highest quality and value for our patients."

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About C.W. Randolph, Jr., M.D.: Dr. Randolph is widely acknowledged as one of our nation's leading medical pioneers in the fields of bioidentical hormone replacement and optimal-aging medicine. He is triple board-certified: in Age Management Medicine by The Age Management Medicine Foundation, by the American Board of Integrative Holistic Medicine, and by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He is also a member of the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine (A4M) and is completing his certification. Dr. Randolph's distinctive expertise also derives from his training as a licensed compounding pharmacist specializing in pharmacognosy (plant-based medicines). He continues to be a sought-after speaker for medical and consumer health organizations across the country and is the author of several bestselling books on the topics of optimal aging, including *From Hormone Hell to Hormone Well* and *From Belly Fat to Belly Flat*.

About Lori Ann Leaseburge, M.D.: Dr. Leaseburge is widely recognized as a clinical expert in both women's health and the science of optimal aging. She is board certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She is a member of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, the Institute for Functional Medicine and is an Advanced Fellow of the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine. Dr. Leaseburge's research has been published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Prior to medical school, she worked as a Registered Dietician at Duke University Medical Center. Today Dr. Leaseburge practices at the Ageless and Wellness Medical Center with a strong clinical interest in nutrition and holistic health.

About Dr. Randolph's Ageless & Wellness Medical Center: For close to three decades, Dr. Randolph and his team of medical professionals have been internationally recognized as medical pioneers in the fields of optimal-aging medicine. Dr. Randolph's Ageless & Wellness Medical Center emphasizes an integrated approach to health and wellness. Our practice, located in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, is nationally recognized as a Center of Excellence in the field of natural, bioidentical hormone replacement therapies (BHRT). We offer age management medicine for women and men, as well as comprehensive gynecological treatments and procedures for women.

**Contact Information****Danika Oliverio**

Ageless & Wellness Medical Center

<http://www.agelessandwellness.com>

+1 9042493743

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