

Flabjab businessman stripped of £800,000

Millionaire businessman Duncan Williams, who made a fortune selling unlicensed and potentially dangerous anti-flab injections, has been stripped of £800,000.

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Williams, 51, promoted the Flabjab treatment's fat-busting effects on the internet, in magazines and even on Richard & Judy.

Patients paid hundreds of pounds for consultations and courses of treatment but some suffered unpleasant side effects.

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One retired woman was left permanently disfigured and so upset that she could no longer look in the mirror.

But Birmingham-based Williams, who sold the product to more than 1,000 patients across the country, maintained that he was "proud" of the results it achieved.

His company, Lipomed, made nearly £1 million during the ten-month period it sold the drug.

In December 2007, Williams, of Barnt Green, Birmingham, pleaded guilty to breaching medical regulations. He was handed an £800,000 confiscation order and fined £5,000 by an Old Bailey judge.

His company, Lipomed, of which he is the sole director, was fined £5,000 and had all of its assets of £23,000 confiscated.

Williams was also ordered to pay £19,000 in prosecution costs.

Judge Martin Stephens said: "These were serious breaches of the Medicines Act, not least because Mr Williams pursued Lipomed's activities after due warning by the authorities."

The court heard that Williams and Lipomed had carried on marketing the injections despite warnings by medical authorities.

It was only after a raid at the company's premises that sales were stopped .

Flabjab was advertised and sold as a cosmetic body fat and cellulite reduction product between December 2004 and October 2005.

The businessman sold the drug with his wife Dr Yelena Watkins, who has since died in a car accident.

Williams liable to pay up from his own assets which include a half-share in his late-wife's £2.4 million estate including a £600,000 home, plus an £850,000 property in Bromsgrove.

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