



PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

NEWSLETTER



Ensuring Quality, Safety and Efficacy in the medicines supply chain



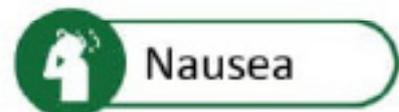
COMMONLY REPORTED SIDE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 VACCINES



Headache



Fever



Nausea



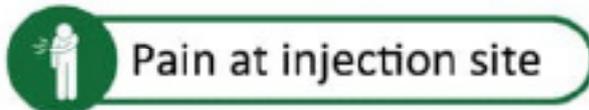
Rash



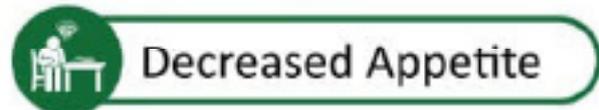
Fatigue



Tiredness



Pain at injection site



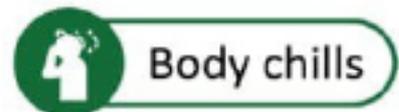
Decreased Appetite



Vomiting



Dizziness



Body chills



Abdominal Pain

You are encouraged to report **ANY** side effect you may experience after vaccination to Pharmacy and Poisons Board through any of the channels below:

| PUBLIC/PATIENTS | |
|--|--|
| Website | pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add |
| Phone | +254 795 743 049 |
| or report to the nearest health facility | |

| HEALTH WORKERS | |
|----------------|--|
| Website | pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/ |
| Email | pv@pharmacyboardkenya.org |
| Phone | +254 795 743 049 |



Editor's Note

Looking back and forward

Dear readers,

Welcome to the 17th issue of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board Newsletter. We'd like to thank our colleagues who responded to our newsletter call. COVID-19 is absolutely the biggest news story of our time. However, it is not the only news, and we are striving to make sure that relevant topics and events at The Board don't go uncovered. In this package of our latest reporting, we hope that you find a measure of quality information and useful practices and invite you to send any comments to pr@pharmacyboardkenya.org

Stay safe!

Judy

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About The Newsletter

The PPB Newsletter is a publication of the Public Relations Department. It is designed to act as a tool of communication, documenting and disseminating important news and information to staff and stakeholders of the Board

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- WHO Global Benchmarking Tool
- Training Needs Assessment/ Learning Management Systems

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PPB CEO calls on stakeholders to intensify safety monitoring of vaccines



PPB CEO Dr. F. M. Siyoi

The deployment of multiple types of COVID 19 vaccines in Kenyan population requires heightened safety monitoring of the vaccines to generate local data on their safety.

Speaking during the Kenya pharmacovigilance and post-marketing surveillance stakeholders' forum virtual workshop, Dr. F. Siyoi, Chief Executive Officer, Pharmacy and Poisons Board, (PPB) stressed the need for Pharmacovigilance (PVG) and Post-Marketing Surveillance (PMS) now more than never before because of the COVID 19 pandemic.

Dr. Siyoi noted that PPB in collaboration with National Vaccines and Immunization Program and development partners has initiated targeted spontaneous reporting (TSR) activity in fourteen (14) Counties namely Nairobi, Uasin Gishu, Nyeri, Meru, Garissa, Kakamega, Kisumu, Mombasa, Nakuru, Machakos, Kiambu, Kilifi, Turkana and Kajiado.

"This initiative is aimed at accelerated detection and reporting of Adverse Events following immunization with COVID 19 vaccines," he said.

Since 2011 the PPB has received 17,000 adverse drug reaction reports.

Dr. Siyoi emphasized that "Monitoring quality, safety and efficacy of medical products and technologies is critical in detection and prevention of substandard or falsified products, detection, reporting and management of Adverse Events associated with Health products as well as protecting safety and health of the public."

The CEO urged all stakeholders and key players in Pharmacovigilance and Post-Marketing surveillance to utilize Information Technology and Innovation for strengthening of PV/PMS activities.

Dr. Tom Menge, Head of Department of HPTs in the Ministry of Health added that there is need to enhance pharmacovigilance to include medical supplies and laboratory supplies. "As a ministry we will continue to play our role in overseeing governance and coordination of all activities," he said.

PPB has established a robust pharmacovigilance and post-marketing surveillance system. One of the components of the system include the Pharmacovigilance Electronic Reporting System (PvERS) that provides a platform to both members of the public and healthcare professionals to report suspected adverse events and suspected poor quality medical products.

In July 2020, the PPB inaugurated the Kenya National Pharmacovigilance/ Post-Marketing Surveillance Technical Working Group (TWG).

The TWG brings together representatives from Ministry of Health, Public Health Programs, Central Procurement agencies, Teaching and Research institutions as well as Quality Control Laboratories. This structure provides a platform for information exchange and joint implementation of PV/PMS activities as well as effective coordination of these activities.

The CEO urged the forum to generate ideas and innovations that would help move Pharmacovigilance and Post-Marketing surveillance to the next level.

Focus areas include strengthening collaborations with Public Health Programs, County Health Departments and other key organizations to facilitate awareness creation on adverse drug reaction and adverse events detection, reporting and management, evaluation of the current reporting system and its effectiveness and new strategies that can be employed to increase the reporting rates.

Those who attended the forum included USAID, KEMRI, MOH, Council of Governors, IGAD and the Private sector among others. They all called for close collaboration to improve patient safety.

Pharmacists praised for dedication in improving healthcare delivery in the country

On 25th September, 2021 the Pharmacy and Poisons Board joined the world to mark the World Pharmacists' Day (WPD) globally as designated by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Council.

The day is dedicated to celebrate and appreciate the work done by pharmacists and clearly signifies the importance of a pharmacist in product development, manufacturing and entire lifecycle while improving access, safety, quality and efficacy to medical products and health technologies.

This year's theme "Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health" provided an opportunity for pharmacists to show appreciation for the trust placed in their profession and increase awareness of their role in improving healthcare delivery in the country.

PPB CEO Dr. F. M. Siyoi, commended the pharmacists for their role in healthcare delivery to the Nation and the world at large especially in this era of the COVID-19 pandemic. "Pharmacists are pharmaceutical experts trusted as source

of knowledge and advice, not only to patients but also to healthcare professionals," he said.

Dr. Siyoi acknowledged that pharmacists promote a healthier world through patient care, research, teaching and manufacturing of medical products and health technologies. "Their role in development of novel health interventions to support appropriate management of diseases cannot be overemphasized," he noted.

Currently, the world is experiencing a period of widespread

distrust in healthcare systems fueled by the COVID-19 pandemic and the accompanying information on the spread, prevention and the management of the pandemic.

Pharmacists and pharmaceutical science carry three elements of trust; positive relationship, competency/expertise and consistency hence these elements can be used in countering misinformation on COVID-19 as well as promoting vaccines uptake by the general public against the virus, he said.

PPB sensitizes stakeholders on Antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

On 18 October, 2021 the Pharmacy and Poisons Board with support from Fleming Fund conducted a sensitisation workshop on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), antimicrobial use and antimicrobial consumption targeting regulators of human and animal health antimicrobial agents.

The objective of the workshop was to provide a platform for review of the National Action Plan on AMR as well as Policy Guidance on antimicrobial stewardship in human and animal health.

The workshop also focused on the role of National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRAs) in combating AMR as well as defining the next steps in areas of impact from a regulatory perspective.



Participants at the AMR workshop in Nairobi's Panafric Hotel.

Sting Pharmaceutical operation arrests two with smuggled goods

On 6th October, 2021 crackdown by Pharmacy and Poisons Board and the Kenya Police Service arrested two people with consignments of health products & technologies worth KES 2M seized in a joint operation targeting illegal cross border smuggling of pharmaceuticals.

The Board conducted the joint operation within the Ports of Entry with an aim to enforce Good Distribution Practices of Health Products and Technologies (HPTs) along Namanga, Loitoktok, Busia and Malaba highways.

Deputy Director Inspectorate & Enforcement Dr. Dominic Kariuki confirmed that among the items seized included antibiotics, analgesics, cough syrups and diagnostic devices.

"PPB wishes to notify all the stakeholders on the requirements for licensing of pharmaceutical transporters that is on the official PPB website," said Dr. Kariuki.

He advised the general cargo handlers such as passenger buses, trucks, vans or other automobile vessels to avoid illegal transportation of pharmaceuticals across the borders.

"Any company transporting medicine as a parcel should ensure they have the documents of delivery showing the source and the recipient otherwise on interception the Board inspectors shall assume the consignment is being trafficked by the transportation company and in that case they shall face prosecution," Dr. Kariuki advised.

The offenders were arrested and arraigned in court with preferred charges of possession of part I poisons while not



PPB drugs Inspector Abdinasir Ahmed displays an assortment of medicines intercepted during an operation at border points

being an authorized seller of poisons contrary to section 26(1)(b) as read with section 26(2) of the Pharmacy and Poisons act, Cap. 244 laws of Kenya.

Other charges included Importation of medicinal substances that is unfit for use in humans contrary to section 50a(1)(a)

as read with section 51 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap. 244 laws of Kenya and Importation of poison without an import licence contrary to rule 3(1) of the Pharmacy and Poisons rules as read with section 51 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap. 244 laws of Kenya.

PPB conducts targeted crackdown on illegal drug distributors



Inside a van transporting medicines illegally.

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board inspectors in conjunction with Kenya Police Service on 29th October 2021 carried out a targeted crackdown on illegal drug distribution outlets within Nakuru, Kericho, Bomet, Samburu, Narok and Laikipia counties.

The targeted drug distribution outlets included chemists, clinics, herbal medicine stores and cosmetic shops stocking medicament containing preparations.

The operation saw a total seizure of at least one hundred and thirty-six (136) cartons of assorted medicines found in the illegal premises and the personnel found operating them were arrested.

The Head of GDP, Julius Kaluai said the seized medicines will be analyzed and disposed as per PPB guidelines on disposal of pharmaceuticals.

He confirmed that during the operation a total of fifty-three (53) persons were placed under arrest and registered for prosecution in various courts within South Rift region and 140 premises were issued with closure notices and

their details shared with other government administrative agencies for joint enforcement of closure.

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board, PPB, is the body mandated by Cap 244 of the laws of Kenya to ensure that all Kenyans access Quality, safe and efficacious medicines.

The Board wishes to thank the Kenya Police service and the Judiciary for their collaboration during this crackdown. "However, we appeal to the courts to enhance fines for those found guilty, in line with the fines in the amended Cap 244, to act as a deterrent," Kaluai said.

During the crackdown, PPB officials obtained invoices, receipts and other documents from the illegal premises, that shall aid in identifying the licensed wholesalers of pharmaceuticals who are supplying illegal premises. The owners of those wholesalers will be prosecuted and their licenses revoked.

He noted that of concern to PPB, is a trend where licensed pharmacy outlets are left to be manned by unqualified persons. We are doing profiling on the same and such absentee superintendents shall be subjected for disciplinary mechanisms as per Cap 244 of the laws of Kenya.

He also notified both public and private healthcare facilities and those who handle pharmaceuticals to apply online for disposal of any pharmaceutical waste that they may have or get in touch with PPB regional officers through the website: www.pharmacyboardkenya.org.

Some of the charges that those found operating illegal pharmacies were charged with include;

- Carrying on the business of a pharmacist while not registered as a pharmacist contrary to section 19(1) (a) as read with section 19(2) of the pharmacy and poisons act Cap 244 of the laws of Kenya.
- Carrying on the business of a pharmaceutical technologist in premises not registered by PPB contrary to section 23(1A) as read with section 23(6) of the pharmacy and poisons act Cap244 of the laws of Kenya.
- Possession of part 1 poisons while not being an authorized seller of poisons contrary to section 26(1) (b) of the pharmacy and poisons act cap 244 of the laws of Kenya.
- Operating the business of a pharmacist without the presence of a registered pharmacist in the premises where such business is being carried out Contrary to section 20(1B) as read with section 20(2) of pharmacy and poisons act cap 244 of the laws of Kenya.

84 illegal pharmacies shut in a Nyanza region crackdown



A crackdown on illegal pharmacies in Nyanza region that commenced on 20th September, 2021 closed down a total of 84 illegal outlets and seized 137 cartons of assorted medicines. 80 people were arrested & arraigned in court & charged with various offenses.

The operation which was led by the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) Deputy Director of Inspectorate and Enforcement, Dr. Dominic Kariuki covered the counties of Kisumu, Nyamira, Kisii, Homabay, Migori and Siaya and targeted pharmacy outlets that were found to have flouted regulations.

Speaking in Kisumu, Dr. Kariuki issued a stern warning to absentee superintendents who leave pharmacy outlets in the hands of unqualified persons hence putting the lives of Kenyans in danger. The professionals who have been found engaging in these malpractices have been summoned for disciplinary action, he said.

He also directed all pharmacy outlets with expired drugs to safely quarantine them and get in touch with PPB regional inspectors for safe disposal.

“PPB has distributed minilabs to its regional offices for random sampling and testing of medicines in the market to ensure that medicines in the Kenyan market are of good quality, safe and efficacious” he noted.

PPB has also trained health workers and stakeholders to identify and report poor quality medicines using the PPB poor quality medicines reporting tools.

(Photo) Assorted medicines siezed by PPB during a crackdown in Nyanza Region.

PPB weeds out quacks in a Nairobi region crackdown



Mr. Julius Kaluai, PPB Head of Nairobi region, addresses security personnel & Inspectors before the crackdown exercise.

A crackdown on illegal pharmaceutical outlets within Nairobi and its environs nabbed 40 people who were found to be practicing illegally.

The operation which was conducted by Pharmacy and

Poisons Board in collaboration with the National Police Service aimed at weeding out quacks and unlicensed chemists selling medical products to innocents Kenyans.



Mr. Julius Kaluai addresses the media at Kilimani Police Station.

Addressing the media on October 5, 2021, PPB Head of Nairobi Region, Mr. Julius Kaluai said, the crackdown supplements routine inspections to ensure compliance to regulations as stipulated in Cap 244 Laws of Kenya.



A Police woman escorts a lady suspect after a crackdown on illegal outlets in Kawangware.

Mr. Kaluai commended the efforts by other stakeholders to ensure the operation is successful adding that the support from different levels has enabled PPB to achieve its targets during surveillance and enforcement activities.



PPB administers online professional exams



Students sitting for the PPB professional exam at KICC

On 3rd and 4th November, 2021, over 800 candidates sat for their 2021 PPB professional examination administered online.

The exam took place in nine examination centres across the country to ensure compliance with all Covid-19 protocols.

PPB attends KPA annual scientific conference



PPB Deputy Director of Pharmacy Practice and Regulation of Training, Dr. Dominic Mutie makes his remarks at the 17th KPA's Annual Scientific Conference in Mombasa

On September 16, 2021 PPB exhibited at the 17th Annual Scientific Conference for the Kenya Pharmaceutical Association in Pride Inn Shanzu, Mombasa.



Conference participants follow proceedings at the 17th KPA Annual Scientific Conference.

During the exhibition, conference participants who had challenges in PPB systems were assisted as well as guided on various regulatory issues.

The conference theme was " Evolution and Innovation of Pharmacy Practice in the Covid-19 Era"

PSK holds 41st annual scientific conference



Participants group photo at the PSK 41st Annual Scientific Conference.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya 41st Annual Scientific Conference kicked off on October 27, 2021 at Whitesands Hotel, Mombasa.

This year's conference theme was "Advancing the health and well-being of mwananchi through excellence in pharmacy."

The three-day conference attended by the CEO, Pharmacy and Poisons Board, Dr. F.M. Siyoi amongst other senior officials discussed key areas in the pharmaceutical industry namely;

- The role of Pharmacists in advancing primary healthcare
- Regulation for quality healthcare
- Sustainable end-to-end pharmaceutical value chains
- Digital health interventions
- The nexus between pharmacy training and practice and

- Unfolding the challenges of Covid-19
- Addressing the event participants, Dr. F. M. Siyoi outlined the tremendous improvement that the pharmaceutical industry has undergone in ensuring quality of medical products.

He however, noted that despite the advances that have been achieved, a lot still needs to be done on efficacy due to capacity challenges.

He highlighted that some of the challenges that PPB faces in delivering its mandate includes lack of appreciation by the industry players, legislation, lack of knowledge on PPB's scope and shortage of technical capacity among others.

CEO made the remarks during a Panel discussion on Regulation for quality health care.

He noted that "Regulation is improving. We are doing drug registration, pharmacy practice, PMS, PV among others. What we need is collaboration with stakeholders for the

regulation to be effective.”

He said a pharmacovigilance expert review and advisory committee has been appointed to conduct causality assessment.

In addition, the Regulatory Affairs Compliance Specialist at IGAD, Dr. Anthony Toroitich called for a seamless regulatory system within EAC to enhance capacity and transfer knowledge across the region.

Photo: PPB CEO Dr. F. M. Siyoi makes a contribution during a panel discussion at the PSK Scientific Conference.



PV/PMS TWG hold consultative meeting



PPB Head of Post Marketing Surveillance, Dr. Karim Wanga makes a presentation during the PV/PMS TWG meeting.

The National Pharmacovigilance and Post marketing surveillance technical working group on 1st November 2021 held a consultative meeting aimed at strengthening PV/PMS systems in Kenya.



Participants follow proceedings at the PV/PMS and TWG meeting.

In attendance were representatives from Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), Ministry of Health, National Quality Control Laboratory (NQCL), NASCOP, Malaria program, Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS), Neglected Tropical Diseases program, National Vaccines & Immunization program, development and technical partners among others.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE CERTAIN, JUST SUSPICIOUS!!!

Report the following to PPB using the forms available online:

- Suspected poor quality medical products
- Suspected side effects following use of medicines, vaccines, medical devices, blood and blood products
- Medication Errors

You can report through the channels below:

| PUBLIC/PATIENTS | |
|-----------------|--|
| Website | pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add |
| Phone | +254 795 743 049 or report to the nearest health facility |

| HEALTH WORKERS | |
|----------------|--|
| Website | pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/ |
| Email | pv@pharmacyboardkenya.org |
| Phone | +254 795 743 049 |



The Global Covid-19 Vaccine Inequity-The Bane Of Intellectual Property Rights



Mr. Kibet Kisorio, PPB's Head of Legal Services

The declaration of the coronavirus (COVID-19) as a global pandemic saw in its wake the disruption of the social and economic activities world over. The capacities of many healthcare systems, especially in developing countries, were stretched by the pandemic to the tipping point.

Luckily, upon considerable scientific efforts, some effective vaccines against the virus have finally been produced. Whereas this restored hope, many countries, especially from the developing world, faced a herculean task in accessing the vaccines for its people, thanks to, amongst other contributory factors, the restrictive Intellectual Property (IP) regime. Intellectual property law restrictions arise because vaccine patents, which are a form of Intellectual Property rights, prevent others from entering the market in any form including production, supply and more importantly pricing of the vaccines.

Ordinarily, the owner of a patent to a new medical product is granted exclusive proprietary rights for some period of time, mostly 20 years. The proponents of exclusivity argue that, the same allows innovators time-limited rights so as to recoup benefits of their intellectual input in the nature of numerous research and development towards an innovation.

With the pandemic ravaging the world, the urgency by developed countries in securing the vaccine supplies for their citizens, exposed the soft underbelly of the existent global inequalities. A world was divided in two fronts; those with vaccine and those without. It is on record that the developed countries had a stock surplus of the vaccines that could be shared and still enough left over to vaccinate 80% of their population older than 12 years! The self-defeating situation was aptly described by the World Health Organization (WHO) Director Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus as not only a moral failure, but an economic and human rights catastrophe.

Clearly, the pandemic revived the old debate on the delicate

balance between public health and intellectual property rights. The HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1990s remain vivid; People dying in developing countries because of inaccessibility of the patented lifesaving anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs). It was not until the Indian companies started manufacturing generics which saw the dramatic fall in price resulting in remarkable improvement in access to ARVs. Notably, India could do so because at that time, it had not adopted patents for medicines.

Although the right to health has been inscribed in a number of global treaties, actualization of the aspirations remains distant as we witness from the pandemic many countries especially the developing nations, unable to fully realizing the right to health for their needy citizenry. The opposition by developed countries on the request by developing countries led by South Africa and India to the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS) Council for a temporary waiver, meant to eliminate patent and other intellectual property barriers for the development, production and supply of all COVID-19 medical products, underscores the underlying inequalities.

Whereas it is mandatory for all World Trade Organization (WTO) member countries to recognize product patents, there are exemptions outlined in TRIPS depending on the circumstances. Examples of the TRIPS flexibilities available include compulsory licensing, voluntary licensing, data protection, parallel imports amongst others. The voluntary licensing arrangement between AstraZeneca and Serum institute of India, is a good example and a success template for many a developing country on achieving access to vaccines.

As the world continues fighting the pandemic, whose threat is now compounded by the WHO latest warning of a heavily mutated Omicron Coronavirus variant, vaccination of the population is no doubt paramount towards containment of the virus. While the short term solution to ensuring more equitable vaccines access is reliant on distribution of the global stockpile to places in need, the long term solution should focus on local capacity strengthening. The Kenyan government has taken cue on this self-reliance lesson. During the State of the Nation Address, the President outlined some ongoing efforts to establish a venture that would locally produce anti COVID-19 vaccines targeted to commence operations by Easter 2022.

Developing countries must thus rise to the occasion and confront barriers such as lack of physical infrastructure, technical expertise, and supply chain capability. Maximum utilization of the obtaining TRIPS flexibilities and further attempt by developing countries to liberalize Intellectual property rules through IP waivers, would make these underlying technologies available for use at a global scale. The WHO global accord on pandemic prevention mooted by the World Health Assembly, is a welcome effort aimed at protecting the world from future infections.

By Mr. Kibet Kisorio , Head of Legal Services at the Pharmacy and Poisons Board

Could behavioral science help to reduce covid-19?

Just in time for holidays, the announcement came that omicron variant of the coronavirus is spreading quickly in the region. The rise in the number of cases and hospitalizations in our country could definitely have a negative impact on people’s health, on the response capacity of the national health system, and on all sectors of activity that are beginning to return to normality.

Containing Covid-19 and restoring our economies requires not just good policy decisions and medical advice; it also needs continued compliance with recommended behavioral changes that in many ways go against social and cultural conventions.

This need for behavioral change resulted in worldwide regulations, such as lockdowns, school closures, and travel restrictions, all directed to reduce the number of behavioral contacts.

As we move into the current wave of managing the covid-19 epidemic, changing people’s transmission-related behaviors across society as a method for flattening the peak of the epidemic becomes more urgent.

Behavior is often mentioned in relation to crises: the trading of mortgages that resulted in the financial crisis in 2008, the shaking of hands in the latest COVID-19 crisis, or the consuming of goods in the climate crisis. In most of these cases, behavior is primarily considered as a factor that causes or sustains a crisis, but when it comes to solving a crisis, behavior is less likely to be considered.

For solutions to a crisis, we often turn to experts from the respective discipline - in the financial crisis we turn to economists, in the COVID-19 crisis we turn to epidemiologists, and in the climate crisis we turn to climatologists. We seem to overlook the power of behavioral change, and the field of behavioral science.

Looking back, it took a few months but there came a turning point in the Ebola response efforts. Instead of focusing on top-down actions, public health officials became more purposeful in understanding human behavior and in building relationships.

And like Ebola, the coronavirus pandemic is also underscored by human behavior. Specific behaviors like personal hygiene

and physical distancing are fundamental to halting the virus’s spread.

Four decades of experience with the HIV epidemic have also shown that information alone is insufficient to overcome these challenges; interventions must address the underlying, often complex factors that influence human behavior.

Many lessons learned from socio-behavioral science in the HIV pandemic are applicable to the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual behavior must be understood within its interpersonal and societal context to address the current barriers to adherence to disease-mitigating strategies and promote an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which is likely to be endured for the foreseeable future.

Human behavior was instrumental in causing COVID-19, and changing it, is vital to tackling this pandemic. The countries that have done best in mitigating COVID-19’s harms to health and to their economies have rapidly and successfully persuaded their populations to enact large-scale behavior change.

In Kenya, adopting a behavioral science approach to this virus could be hugely beneficial, from facilitating change around key behaviors to reducing stigma and misinformation.

We have learned that accurate and consistent information serves as the foundation to any messaging or public health campaigns to influence individual behaviors and must be managed carefully in light of evolving evidence.

Moreover, vaccines are a critical tool, but human behavior plays a vital role in vaccine uptake and ultimate effectiveness, and other prevention efforts must continue alongside them.

Therefore, it is important to develop strategies and interventions that maximize the opportunity for people to maintain these behaviors over time. Let us all commit to taking personal responsibility to be the light that will save our country from COVID-19, by complying strictly with all the prevention recommendations that the Government has been publicizing. When each one of us could play our part. There is no way this disease can defeat us.

By Judy Sirima, Communications Officer, Pharmacy and Poisons Board.



HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED ANY SIDE EFFECTS?

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board encourages you to report any suspected side effects following use of medicines or vaccines.

You can report through the channels below:

| PUBLIC/PATIENTS | |
|-----------------|--|
| Website | pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add |
| Phone | +254 795 743 049 or report to the nearest health facility |
| HEALTH WORKERS | |
| Website | pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/ |
| Email | pv@pharmacyboardkenya.org |
| Phone | +254 795 743 049 |



Public Service Week

In the spirit of the Customer Service Week which observed on 4th to 5th October, 2021 PPB wishes to thank all our clients for being a beacon of positivity and purpose in a time where many are uncertain. We pray for your safety during this covid-19 period and wish you success in all your endeavors.

We also commend our officers for the amazing services they render to our clients and the country at large and beseech them to keep up the great work!

#CustomerServiceWeek2021 #PowerOfService



Photo: A PPB officer engages a client at an ASK show

#MedSafetyWeek

On 29th October to 7th November, 2021 the Pharmacy and Poisons Board participated in the Global MedSafetyWeek an annual MHRA social media campaign to support awareness of reporting to the Yellow Card scheme.

The annual #MedSafetyWeek forms part an international effort to raise awareness about the importance of reporting suspected adverse reactions by national medicines regulatory authorities from 65 countries across the globe and their stakeholders.

This year's theme is on the importance of reporting suspected adverse reactions to vaccines.

Please feel free to share the key messages on your social media accounts

Been vaccinated but not feeling well? It might be a side effect. Make sure to report it to <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/> <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add>

Did you know you should always report suspected side effects you or someone you care for experience after Covid-19 vaccination? Your report adds to the safety information for vaccines.

Help us keep using vaccines in the best way.

Do you suspect your patient may be experiencing a side effect after receiving a vaccine? By reporting suspected side

effects using <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/> <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add> you help us learn more about the benefits and risks of vaccines-so we can make better informed decisions.

Vaccines are the best way to protect individuals against infectious diseases. Like with all medicines, side effects can happen.

By reporting these, you help us to monitor the safety of vaccines.

If you have been recently vaccinated and suspect a side effect, don't delay in reporting it to <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/>

<https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add>

Every report we receive helps us identify new side effects and gain more information about known effects.

All vaccines are monitored for safety. This includes assessing reports from patients and healthcare professionals about suspected side effects.

Always report to <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/>

<https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add>

Vaccines are the most effective way to prevent infectious diseases and they save millions of lives worldwide.





Pharmacy and
Poisons Board

DANGERS OF SELF-MEDICATION

Self-medication has potential risks such as;

- 1 Hiding of severe disease hence delay in seeking medical advice
- 2 Wrong identification of diseases leading to wrong choice of medicines
- 3 Can lead to side effects (mild, moderate to severe)
- 4 Exposure to harmful medicines interactions
- 5 Other risks include wrong dosages, wrong route of administration, risk of medicines abuse and addiction

For more information visit: www.pharmacyboardkenya.org



pv@pharmacyboardkenya.org



[ppbkenya](https://twitter.com/ppbkenya)



+254 795 743 049



PPB Newsletter

Guaranteeing Quality and Safety of Medicines