

APR 23 - JUN 23

ISSUE NO.23



PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

NEWSLETTER

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**Pharmacy and Poisons Board
CEO Hosts International Vaccine
Institute Director**



Pharmacy and Poisons Board



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

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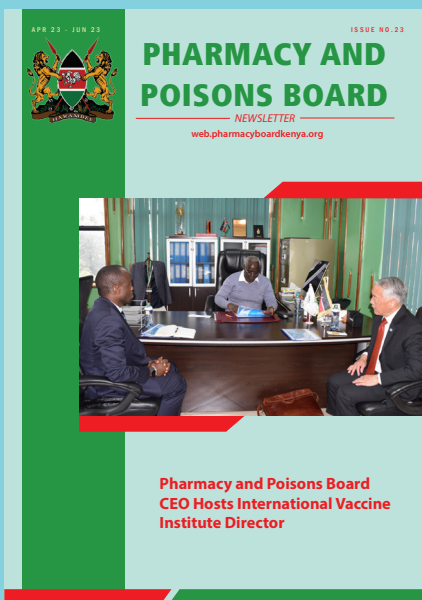
- Suspected poor quality medical products
- Suspected side effects following use of medicines, vaccines, medical devices, blood and blood products
- Medication errors

You Can report through the channels below:

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Website	pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add
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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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Editor's Note

Looking forward with you mind on our transformative agenda

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 23rd edition of the PPB Newsletter! In this issue, we offer a glimpse into the dedicated work being done by the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and its partners to ensure quality, safety, and efficiency in pharmaceutical operations.

Through the articles presented, we shed light on the transformative developments taking place in the industry. From regulatory reforms aimed at bolstering local manufacturing to collaborations between Kenya and the World Health Organization (WHO) for enhanced regulatory systems, we explore the initiatives shaping the future of pharmaceuticals.

We value your feedback and contributions to make our newsletter even more informative and engaging. If you have any suggestions, comments, or would like to contribute an article for future editions, please reach out to us at pr@pharmacyboardkenya.org. Your input is vital in shaping the content and ensuring that we continue to provide you with valuable insights.

Thank you for your continued support, and enjoy exploring the informative content in this edition of the PPB Newsletter!

Judy

ONGOING EVENTS

- Updating the Kenya Corrective and Preventive Action (CAPA) following the WHO Global Benchmarking Tool assessment of regulatory systems

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Pharmacy and Poisons Board



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Ensuring quality, safe, efficacious and affordable health products and technologies in Kenya

Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chairman calls for regulatory reforms to bolster local manufacturing

The Chairman of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) have jointly emphasized the urgent need for regulatory reforms to strengthen local pharmaceutical manufacturing in Kenya. Their goal is to ensure affordable healthcare for all citizens by promoting domestic production of accessible and cost-effective medicines. Transforming Kenya into a regional pharmaceutical hub would enable local manufacturers to meet the increasing demand for essential supplies in a highly competitive manner.

Dr. Charles Githinji, Chairman of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, made these remarks during the 43rd Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya Scientific Conference held on May 22nd and 27th, 2023. The conference served as a platform for addressing pressing issues within the pharmaceutical industry in Kenya, and Dr. Githinji emphasized the importance of maintaining rigorous regulatory oversight to ensure the safety, efficacy, and quality of pharmaceutical products. "The Pharmacy and Poisons Board is committed to adhering to robust international standards to reinforce public confidence in the market



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji makes his remarks during the Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya 43rd conference

and prioritize the well-being of the population," he said.

At the same event, Dr. Fred Siyoi, CEO of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, called upon pharmacists to actively engage in the policymaking process and advocate for policies that recognize the significant value of pharmacists in healthcare. Dr. Siyoi stressed the importance of staying updated with industry trends, healthcare advancements, and leadership principles to effectively contribute to positive change within the sector. He also emphasized the need for



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chief Executive Officer, Dr. F. M. Siyoi addresses the conference participants

strict adherence to regulations and guidelines that uphold ethical standards and prioritize patient safety in decision-making. By maintaining high ethical



A conference participant signs a visitors book at the Pharmacy and Poisons Board booth



Conference participants



standards, pharmacists can ensure professionalism and accountability in healthcare practices.

Dr. Siyoi echoed the government's

agenda of promoting local manufacturing and urged conference delegates to adhere to good manufacturing practices. This

call aimed to minimize errors in the manufacturing process and ensure the production of high-quality pharmaceutical products.

Kenya collaborates with WHO to enhance regulatory systems and local pharmaceutical manufacturing



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chariman, Dr. Charles Githinji, Chief Executive Officer, Dr. F. M. Siyoi, WHO Director Regulation and Prequalification Dr. Rogerio Gaspar during the meeting

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) hosted a delegation from the World Health Organization (WHO) on May 3rd, 2023, to engage in discussions regarding the enhancement of regulatory systems and local manufacturing in Kenya's pharmaceutical industry. The country aims to establish itself as a prominent regional hub for medicine and healthcare supply production, with the primary objectives of reducing costs and ensuring accessibility for all citizens. During the WHO delegation's visit, Dr. Charles Githinji, Chairman of the PPB, highlighted the vital role of local manufacturing in providing affordable healthcare to the entire Kenyan population. He reaffirmed the government's dedication to promoting domestic pharmaceutical production, aligning with the "Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda"



World Health Organisation's Director Regulation and Prequalification, Dr. Rogerio Gaspar during a meeting at PPB

outlined in the Kenya Kwanza Manifesto.

This agenda prioritizes the manufacturing of medicines within the country to guarantee affordable healthcare for all Kenyans, regardless of their background or social status. Recognizing the competitive potential and expansion capabilities of local



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji at a meeting with the WHO high-level delegation

manufacturers, the government is determined to leverage Universal Health Coverage (UHC) to scale up the production of essential supplies.

Dr. Githinji emphasized that continuous capacity building for local manufacturing, along with ensuring the quality, safety, and efficacy of medicines, remains a top priority for the PPB. The Board is fully committed to achieving effective and affordable healthcare through local production.

The two-day WHO High-Level Mission provided invaluable insights into strengthening the national regulatory system and the local pharmaceutical industry. The meeting was attended by members of the PPB Board, CEO Dr. Fred Siyoi, Directors, and senior managers, demonstrating their commitment to advancing the healthcare sector in Kenya.

Iranian Delegation Explores Regulatory Processes at Pharmacy and Poisons Board



The Iranian delegation follow presentation by Pharmacy and Poisons Board

On June 21, 2023, a delegation from Iranian pharmaceutical companies embarked on a visit to the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) with the aim of gaining insights into the regulatory processes for pharmaceutical products, food supplements, medical devices, and In vitro diagnostics.

The delegation received a warm welcome from Dr. Ahmed

Mohamed, Director of Health Products and Technologies at PPB, who represented Dr. Fred Siyoi, the Chief Executive Officer. This visit



Pharmacy and Poisons Board, Director, Health Products and Technologies engages with the Iranian delegation

coincided with their participation in the ongoing 2023 MEDEXPO event held at the Sarit Centre in Nairobi.



The Iranian delegation during the meeting

Pharmacy and Poisons Board Collaborates with FKPM to Strengthen GMP Compliance

On June 27, 2023, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and the Kenya Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers (FKPM) came together in a strategic collaboration aimed at enhancing compliance with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) within the pharmaceutical industry in Kenya.

The meeting, which was hosted by Dr. F. M. Siyoi, the CEO of PPB, underscored the organizations' shared commitment to achieving World Health Organization (WHO) Maturity Level 3.

This collaborative effort marks a significant milestone in ensuring that the production of pharmaceutical products in Kenya adheres to the highest standards of



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chief Executive Officer, Dr. F. M. Siyoi chairs a meeting with FKPM

quality, safety, and efficacy.

By working together, the PPB and FKPM aim to strengthen GMP compliance, ultimately contributing to the overall improvement of the healthcare sector in the country.



FKPM members during a meeting at Pharmacy and Poisons Board

PPB CEO meets USA Health Attaché to strengthen bilateral relations



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chief Executive Officer, Dr. F. M. Siyoi at a meeting with Peter Mamacos, Health Attache` at the USA Embassy

On April 13th, 2023, Peter Mamacos, the Health Attaché ad interim of the Embassy of the United States of America in Kenya, paid a courtesy visit to Dr. Fred Siyoi, the CEO of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss strategies for strengthening the PPB as it strives to achieve the World Health Organization's (WHO) maturity level 3. This milestone is crucial for enhancing the regulatory

oversight of medicines and healthcare products in Kenya.

Dr. Siyoi expressed his appreciation for the support that the PPB has received from the United States, particularly through USAID. He acknowledged the significant assistance provided by recent staff hires and reiterated the organization's commitment to collaborating with the United States and other partners to accomplish the shared goal of achieving maturity level 3.

The meeting between the PPB CEO and the US Health Attaché signifies the importance of international cooperation in advancing regulatory standards and ensuring the safety and efficacy of medicines and healthcare products in Kenya. The engagement with the United States reflects a commitment to leveraging external support to enhance the PPB's capabilities and fulfill its regulatory responsibilities effectively.



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chief Executive Officer, Dr. F. M. Siyoi, Dr. Allan Wambua and Peter Mamacos, Health Attache` at the Embassy of the United States, pose for a photo

International experts convene at PPB to discuss medicines quality antimicrobial resistance



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Director, Laboratory Services Dr. Obadiah Naikuni chairs a meeting with the International experts

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board meeting on April 14, 2023, (PPB) organized a significant hosting a delegation of experts

from the ABACUS II study. The delegation included various professionals including Dr. Celine Caillet from Oxford University, Ida Johnson from the Food and Drugs Authority of Ghana, Assma Gafur Omargy from the National Medicines Regulatory Authority of Mozambique, Mohammed Fakhul Islam from the Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) of Bangladesh, Noudy Sengxeu from Mahosot Hospital-Wellcome Trust Research Unit in Laos, and the Mission for Essential Drugs (MEDS) team represented by Dr. Stephen

Kigera, Dr. Joseph Muriu, and Mildred Wanyama.

The meeting's primary focus centered around the progress made in medicine quality and antimicrobial resistance research. A particular emphasis was placed on improving access to antibiotics and ensuring their appropriate use.

The professionals shared valuable insights and discussed best practices for pharmaceutical quality control laboratories while exploring potential avenues for future collaboration.

Representing the PPB team were Dr. Obadiah Naikuni, Director for Laboratory Services, and Dr. Karim

Wanga, Head of Post-Marketing Surveillance and the focal point for antimicrobial resistance.

During the meeting, the PPB team

expressed keen interest in exploring handheld technologies for screening the quality of medicines, recognizing their potential value, especially in low-resource settings.



Pharmacy and Poisons Board head of Post Marketing Surveillance, Dr. Karim Wanga during a meeting with the delegation of experts

Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chairman unveils plan to address illegal practice in the pharmaceutical sector

In a decisive move to combat illegal practices within the pharmaceutical industry, Dr. Charles Githinji, Chairman of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), has introduced a comprehensive plan to safeguard public health and uphold industry standards. The unveiling took place during the 19th Annual Scientific Conference of the Kenya Pharmaceutical Association, Central Branch, where Dr. Githinji outlined the proactive measures to tackle this pressing issue.

The PPB's strategy involves the implementation of identifiers for

registered premises, geospatial mapping, and a multi-agency approach. These measures aim to bolster regulatory oversight and effectively crackdown on illegal practices prevalent in the pharmaceutical sector.

Furthermore, Dr. Githinji's presentation highlighted the significant progress made by the PPB towards attaining the World Health Organization's Global Benchmarking Tool (GBT) Maturity Level 3. This accomplishment underscores the Board's unwavering commitment to aligning their practices and



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji makes his remarks during the 19th KPA, Central Region Annual Scientific Conference



A group photo of the Conference participants and the PPB Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji

regulatory framework with international standards, solidifying their dedication to maintaining the integrity and safety of the pharmaceutical industry.

Induction program for State Corporations Boards highlights governance issues and guidelines



Prime Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Musalia Mudavadi makes his remarks during the induction workshop for Boards of State Corporations

On April 20, 2023, an induction program was held in Naivasha for the Boards of State Corporations. The program was organized by the State Corporations Advisory Committee (SCAC) and the Institute of Certified Secretaries (ICS).

The aim of the program was to highlight critical issues in

the operations and conduct of the boards, aligning with the Mwongozo guidelines. The program was officiated by Hon. Musalia Mudavadi, the Prime Cabinet Secretary.

Among the participants in the induction were the PPB Board

members, led by Chairman Dr. Charles Githinji, the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Fred Siyoi, and other PPB staff. The objective of their participation was to enhance their knowledge and skills in board affairs.



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji, Chief Executive Officer, Dr. F. M. Siyoi, board members and senior staff pose for a photo after the workshop

Pharmacy and Poisons Board takes decisive action to combat illegal operators in the pharmaceutical sector



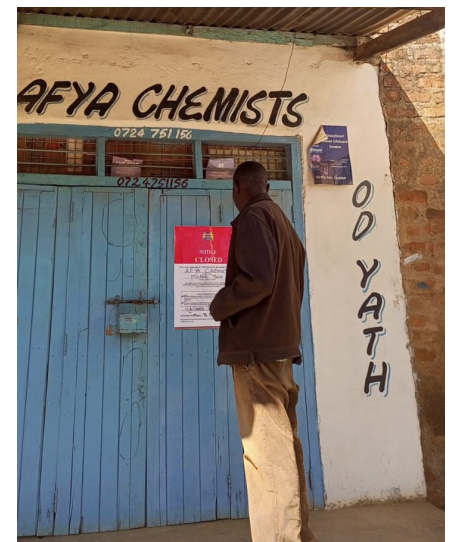
A policewoman guards seized pharmaceutical products during a crackdown on illegal premises

In a determined effort to tackle the presence of illegal operators

in the pharmaceutical sector, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) of Kenya has launched an intensive surveillance campaign. Targeting the Nyanza and Nairobi regions, the crackdown initiated on May 29, 2023, aims to address the unlawful activities of chemists, herbal medicine stores, and cosmetic shops that falsely stock medicament-containing preparations disguised as cosmetics.

Working in close collaboration with various government agencies, the PPB has achieved significant outcomes during this

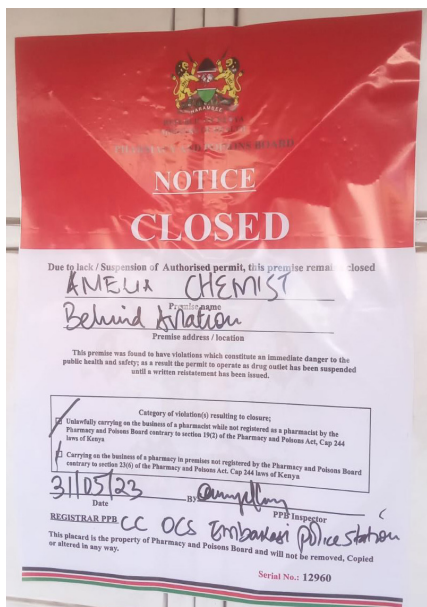
operation. Over 70 individuals have been apprehended and



registered for prosecution in courts across the Nyanza and Nairobi regions. These arrests underscore the PPB’s unwavering commitment to upholding the law and ensuring a safe healthcare environment for all.

In addition to the arrests, the PPB’s team of regulatory inspectors has conducted over 200 inspections to enforce strict compliance with regulations. As a result, appropriate regulatory actions have been taken against violators. “The PPB leaves no stone unturned in its mission to establish a transparent and accountable healthcare system,” said Mr. Julius Kaluai Head of Good Distribution Practices.

The successful outcome of this crackdown is attributed to the invaluable collaboration and unwavering partnership of



A closure notice on a shut down chemist

the judiciary, the Kenya Police Service, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), and the Police. Together, these entities have worked tirelessly to protect public health and bring offenders to justice.

The PPB emphasizes the importance of respecting closure notices, as any attempts to remove or deface them are under investigation and will result in appropriate regulatory sanctions. Upholding the principles of lawfulness is essential in contributing to a healthcare system that is transparent, accountable, and dedicated to the well-being of every individual.

Further, the PPB urges public and private healthcare facilities, as well as those responsible for handling pharmaceuticals, to make use of its online services for the proper disposal of pharmaceutical waste. Detailed information and personalized assistance can be accessed through the official website at web.pharmacyboardkenya.org.

Pictorial...



On May 21, 2023 Dr. Paulyne Wairimu and Dr. Kariuki Gachoki, joined Cabinet Secretary for Health, Nakhumicha S. Wafula, for the inspiring “Walk the Talk: The Health for All Challenge” event in Geneva, prior to the official opening of the 76th World Health Assembly.

Pharmacy and Poisons Board CEO Hosts International Vaccine Institute Director



On June 27, 2023, the Chief Executive Officer of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), Dr. F. M. Siyoi, had the honor of hosting a courtesy visit from Dr. Jerome H. Kim, MD, the Director General of the International Vaccine Institute (IVI).

The meeting revolved around discussions, primarily focusing on the establishment of local manufacturing capacity for vaccines and exploring potential areas of collaboration.

Dr. Siyoi reaffirmed the PPB's unwavering commitment to enhancing the regulation of health

products and technologies, with a specific emphasis on vaccines and other biologics. The PPB warmly embraced the partnership with IVI, recognizing its immense value in furthering this mission.

This collaborative endeavor holds great promise in bolstering vaccine



PPB staff during the meeting with IVI Director General



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chief executive Officer, Dr. F. M. Siyoi engages Dr. Jerome H. Kim, MD

manufacturing within the country and strengthening regulatory frameworks. The PPB and IVI's joint efforts are poised to make significant contributions to the advancement of healthcare and the well-being of the population.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers in Kenya collaborate with WHO to address manufacturing-related issues

In a significant development, pharmaceutical manufacturers in Kenya engaged in a high-level meeting with a delegation from the World Health Organization (WHO) on May 3, 2023. Led by

Dr. Charles Githinji, Chairman of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), the meeting focused on regulatory strengthening and tackled critical issues such as the quality, safety, and efficacy of Health Products and Technologies

(HPTs), pre-qualification, and good manufacturing practices.

Dr. Githinji emphasized the pivotal role of a robust regulatory system in supporting local manufacturing. He reiterated the PPB's unwavering dedication to continuously improve



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Chairman, Dr. Charles Githinji chairs a meeting between the WHO High-Level delegation and Kenyan Manufacturers



Kenya Pharmaceutical Manufacturers during a meeting with the WHO High-Level delegation

the regulation of the pharmacy profession, medical products, and health technologies, with a particular emphasis on ensuring the safety and efficacy of medicines. The Board's commitment to continuous capacity building for local manufacturing, enhanced compliance with good manufacturing practices, and the safeguarding of medicine safety and efficacy were strongly emphasized.

The meeting served as a vital platform for discussing strategies and initiatives that

will further strengthen the local pharmaceutical industry and uphold the highest standards of quality. This collaboration between pharmaceutical manufacturers

in Kenya and the WHO signals a proactive approach in addressing manufacturing-related issues and fostering a thriving pharmaceutical sector in the country.



A group photo with the WHO High-Level delegation at Pharmacy and Poisons Board headquarters

Pharmacy and Poisons Board conducts sensitization workshop on new Core Curricula for pharmacy education



Pharmacy and Poisons Board Director of Pharmacy Practice, Dr. Wilfred Ochieng during the workshop in Machakos

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board organized a Key Stakeholder Sensitization Workshop on the new Core Curricula for Pharmacy, which took place from April 3 to 5, 2023

in Machakos. The primary objective of the workshop was to equip schools of pharmacy with the latest standards and guidelines for the pre-service education and training

of pharmacists.

The role of pharmacists in healthcare has been continuously evolving, prompting the need for stakeholder consultative meetings to review and align the required competences to meet present and future demands in the pharmacy practice environment.

Additionally, the aim is to enhance the role and contribution of pharmacists in achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Sustainable Development Goals, and aligning pharmacy practice with the right to the highest attainable standards of health as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya.

To achieve the overall health needs of the country and national



Workshop participants follow proceedings

development goals, the workshop emphasized the importance of adopting a skills-oriented and competency-based learning approach. This approach will ensure that pharmacists are well-equipped to address the evolving healthcare landscape and contribute effectively to meeting the healthcare needs of the population.

Focus on Tree Planting: Contributing to a Sustainable Ecosystem



A group photo of PPB staff before the tree planting exercise

As part of our corporate social responsibility, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) organized a tree planting exercise on June 16, 2023, at our Central and Coastal regional offices.

The primary objective of this event was to support the national

government's ambitious goal of planting 30 billion trees by 2030, thereby contributing to reforestation efforts and promoting a cleaner and more sustainable ecosystem.



Fredrick Kimutai plants a tree at PPB's Nyeri office



Through our tree planting initiative, the PPB aims to symbolize our dedication to combating climate change and actively participating in ecosystem restoration.





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



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PPB Newsletter

Guaranteeing Quality and Safety of Medicines



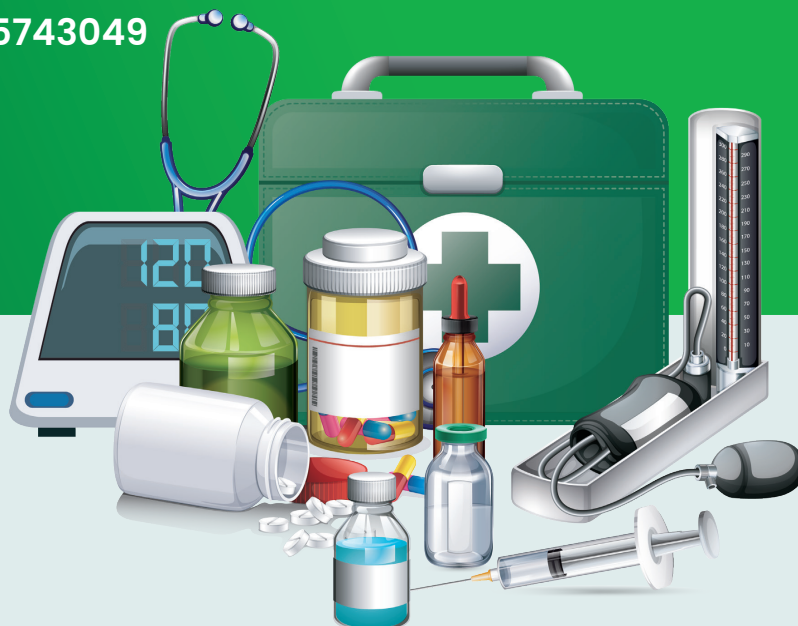
REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD**

You don't need to be certain, just be suspicious!!!

Have you come across any suspected poor quality health products, or experienced any suspected side effects following the use of health products including medicines and vaccines? You are encouraged to report to the Pharmacy and Poisons Board through either of the following:

- Dial *271# on your phone
(free on Safaricom, Telkom and Airtel mobile networks)
- Download and install mPvERS mobile application on your smart phone from Google Play Store or Apple Store
- Login into: <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/padrs/add>
- Call 0795743049



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