



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD**

PRESS STATEMENT: 20TH APRIL 2024

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (hereinafter ‘the Board’) is National Drug Regulatory Authority in the Ministry of Health, established under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act Cap 244 Laws of Kenya to regulate the practice of pharmacy and ensure safety, quality and efficacy of Medical Products and Health Technologies.

Through diligent investigation and decisive action, the Board have dismantled illegal pharmaceutical entities within Nairobi, Central and North Eastern region. The illegal entities were found to be unlicensed, Dispensing medications without necessary licenses and approvals from the Board.

The operation, which commenced on April 14, has culminated into seizure of 88 boxes of assorted Health Products and Technologies and apprehending of 36 persons found to bear the greatest responsibility of the vices. Equally at least 82 premises have been shut down for flouting various regulations. Of the prosecutions made, 7 were in Nairobi, 19 in Central Kenya and 10 from Upper Eastern Region.

The Board would like to extend its gratitude to the dedicated regulatory inspectors, officers drawn from the National Police Service, the National Government Administrative agencies and all those players involved in the operation for their tireless efforts in safeguarding the Public. Their commitment to upholding the rule of law and ensuring the integrity of our pharmaceutical supply chain is commendable and serves as a testament to the effectiveness of collaborative efforts in combating illicit activities.

This ongoing operation reflects the unwavering commitment by the Board to protect the public from the dangers posed by illegal pharmaceutical

activities. To ensure compliance and adherence, the Board has released a list of registered pharmaceutical outlet which can be accessed through <https://practice.pharmacyboardkenya.org/Licensestatus?register=facilities>.

The Board strongly advises the public to exercise caution and only purchase pharmaceuticals from licensed and reputable sources. Further, the Board cautions the public to be wary of chemists that are run without names (this is a key pointer illegality) as well as unregistered medicines, as they may not meet regulatory standards and could have adverse effects on your health

To ensure their safety and the well-being, the public is advised to verify the legitimacy of pharmaceutical establishments and report any suspicious activities to the Board. The registered public and private healthcare facilities handling pharmaceuticals are notified to apply online for disposal of any pharmaceutical waste that they may have or get in touch with PPB regional officers.

(website: www.pharmacyboardkenya.org).

Finally, all registered pharmaceutical practitioners are advised to embrace and continually update themselves with regulatory provision governing prescription and dispensing of controlled medicine and avail records for review anytime they are requested by authorized Officer. Also, they are guided to comply with the Labelling requirement as documented under the Pharmacy and Poison Act [CAP 244].

Kaluai Julius

**Head: Enforcement and
Surveillance**

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