REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

PUBLIC ALERT

FALSIFIED LUCENTIS (RANIBIZUMAB) 0.3MG INJECTION BATCH NUMBERS 18862110 AND 18802112 IDENTIFIED IN THE KENYAN MARKET

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board ("the Board") is the National Medicines Regulatory Authority of Kenya, established under Section 3 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244 of the Laws of Kenya. The Board is mandated to protect and promote public health by regulating the pharmacy profession and ensuring access to quality, safe, and effective health products and technologies ("HPTs").

In furtherance of this mandate, the Board undertakes post-marketing surveillance activities to monitor HPTs circulating in the market and to take appropriate regulatory actions in safeguarding public health.

The Board has detected a falsified **Lucentis (Ranibizumab) 0.3mg injection batch numbers 18862110 and 18802112,** misleadingly claiming to be manufactured by Genentech. This falsified product was found in circulation in the Kenyan market.

A comparison of the suspected falsified product with the genuine product supplied by Novartis Overseas Investment AG identified the following differences:

1. The product is labelled Lucentis, while the brand registered in Kenya is Patizra.
2. The label states 0.3 mg, while the registered product is labelled 10 mg/mL.
3. The product is packed in a dark amber vial, while the genuine product is packed in a clear glass vial.
4. The batch number, manufacturing date and expiry date do not match the genuine product's details

Risks

This batch of falsified Lucentis (Ranibizumab) 0.3mg injection may contain incorrect amounts of the active ingredient, no active ingredient at all, harmful contaminants, or undeclared substances, and therefore may not provide the intended therapeutic effect.

PUBLIC ADVISORY

In light of the above, the Board advises as follows:

1. Healthcare professionals are advised to remain vigilant, verify the authenticity of stocks before dispensing and to quarantine any suspected falsified products.
2. Procurement agencies, hospitals, distributors, all healthcare professionals, and members of the public are urged **to remain vigilant and report immediately any encounter with the falsified Lucentis (Ranibizumab) 0.3mg injection batch numbers 18862110 and 18802112.**
3. All stakeholders within the supply chain to procure HPTs exclusively from Board licensed manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers, and maintain appropriate records. Procuring from unlicensed sources endangers patients and constitutes a violation of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244 of the Laws of Kenya.

The Board, in collaboration with the relevant Government investigative and enforcement agencies, has made significant progress in investigations, including the arrest of one (1) individual found in possession of the falsified product. Further investigations are ongoing to establish the source of the product, the point of entry into the country, and the extent of distribution within the supply chain. The Board will continue to take firm regulatory and legal action against all persons found to be involved in the manufacture, importation, distribution or supply of falsified health products and technologies.

HOW TO REPORT

Any suspected falsified or substandard medicine should be reported through the following official channels:

- Online portal: https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/users/mpublic
- Mobile App: mPvERS (Android & iOS)
- Email: pv@ppb.go.ke | pms@ppb.go.ke
- Telephone: 0795743049

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board remains committed to protecting and safeguarding public health. Your cooperation is essential in ensuring the quality, safety, and efficacy of Health Products and Technologies in Kenya

Dr. Ahmed. I. Mohamed
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
24th September 2026

PHOTOS OF THE FALSIFIED LUCENTIS (RANIBIZUMAB) INJECTION BATCH NUMBERS 18862110 AND 18802112