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PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

NEWSLETTER

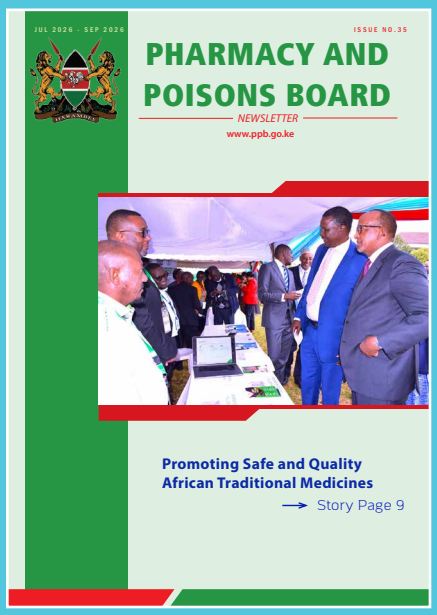
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Promoting Safe and Quality African Traditional Medicines

→ Story Page 9


Pharmacy and Poisons Board
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About The Newsletter

The PPB Newsletter is a publication of the Corporate Communication Division. 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

Welcome to Issue 35 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) Newsletter, where we highlight key developments, regulatory milestones and initiatives aimed at strengthening the quality, safety and efficacy of health products and technologies in Kenya.

In this edition, we reflect on the Board's continued commitment to strengthening medicines regulation through science-based decision-making, transparency, accountability and effective regulatory oversight. These efforts remain essential in safeguarding public health and building confidence in Kenya's pharmaceutical sector.

We highlight progress in digital transformation, including initiatives to strengthen traceability across the pharmaceutical supply chain, improve regulatory efficiency and enhance access to reliable information. The Board continues to advance pharmacovigilance, market surveillance, compliance monitoring and public awareness to promote the safe and responsible use of medicines.

We appreciate our stakeholders, healthcare professionals, partners and members of the public for their continued collaboration in advancing medicines safety.

Enjoy reading Issue 35.

Editor,
Pharmacy and Poisons Board

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **23rd African Union Extraordinary Summit on Local Manufacturing of Health Products**

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

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Kenya Strengthens Pharmaceutical Regulation to Safeguard Patients



PPB Chairperson Dr. John Munyu, MBS makes his remarks during the official opening ceremony



Health Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale among dignitaries during the opening ceremony

Kenya is advancing pharmaceutical regulation to improve access to safe, effective and quality health products while strengthening protection against substandard and falsified medicines.

Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) Chairperson Dr John M. Munyu, MBS, highlighted progress in regulatory reforms, including stronger inspections, renewal of marketing authorizations, improved pharmacy practice standards and digital systems for product authentication and traceability.

Addressing the sixth PharmaReg and MedDevReg AfriSummit, officially opened by Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale on 28 September 2026 in Nairobi, Dr. Munyu emphasised the importance of regulatory collaboration, local manufacturing and secure pharmaceutical supply chains.

Held under the theme "*Building the Bridge of Health*," the Summit brought together African regulators, manufacturers, health professionals and development partners to advance regulatory harmonisation and strengthen access to quality health products across the continent.





A group photo of AfriSummit delegates

Strengthening Regulatory Collaboration Across Africa



PPB Chairperson Dr. John Munyu MBS, makes his closing remarks

Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) Chairperson Dr John M. Munyu, MBS, has called for stronger regulatory collaboration and harmonisation across Africa to improve access to safe, effective, quality and affordable health products.

Addressing the 6th PharmaReg & MedDevReg AfriSummit 2026 on 28 September, Dr. Munyu emphasised the need to strengthen local manufacturing and promote African-made health products while prioritising patient safety.

He urged regulators, manufacturers and partners to translate the knowledge and experiences shared at the Summit into practical regulatory improvements and sustainable partnerships.



Dr. John Munyu MBS poses for a group photo during the closing ceremony

Kenya Advances Pharmaceutical Track and Trace System





Dr. Bramuel Tongola makes his remarks during the conference

Kenya is strengthening the authentication and traceability of health products through an integrated national system aimed at improving supply chain visibility, safeguarding product quality and enabling timely recalls.



Dr. Bramuel Tongola during a panel discussion at AfriSummit

Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) Technical Advisor to the CEO, Dr Bramuel Tongola, outlined the country's phased implementation roadmap at the PharmaReg AfriSummit 2026 on 30 September 2026.

Anchored in the Digital Health Act, 2023, the initiative includes batch declarations for locally manufactured and imported products and the development of a national product catalogue in collaboration with the Digital Health Agency.

From 1 January 2027, batch-level traceability will be complemented by GS1-compliant unit-level serialization, paving the way for enhanced product monitoring, system integration and international interoperability.

Regulatory Reliance to Improve Health Product Assessments

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) is advancing regulatory reliance to improve the efficiency and consistency of health product assessments while maintaining quality, safety and effectiveness standards.

Dr Purity Mutinda, addressing the Regulatory Updates panel at AfriSummit 2026 on 2 October 2026, highlighted the Board's abridged, expedited and





Dr. Purity Mutinda addresses conference participants during AfriSummit

immediate recognition pathways, which draw on assessments and decisions by trusted international regulatory authorities.

She outlined ongoing efforts to strengthen quality management system audits, digital regulatory platforms, stakeholder engagement and the application of artificial intelligence in regulatory evaluations.

The Board is also investing in continuous training and collaboration with the African Medicines Agency to advance regulatory harmonisation and keep pace with emerging health technologies.

Harmonised Regulation Key to Medical Device Safety in Africa

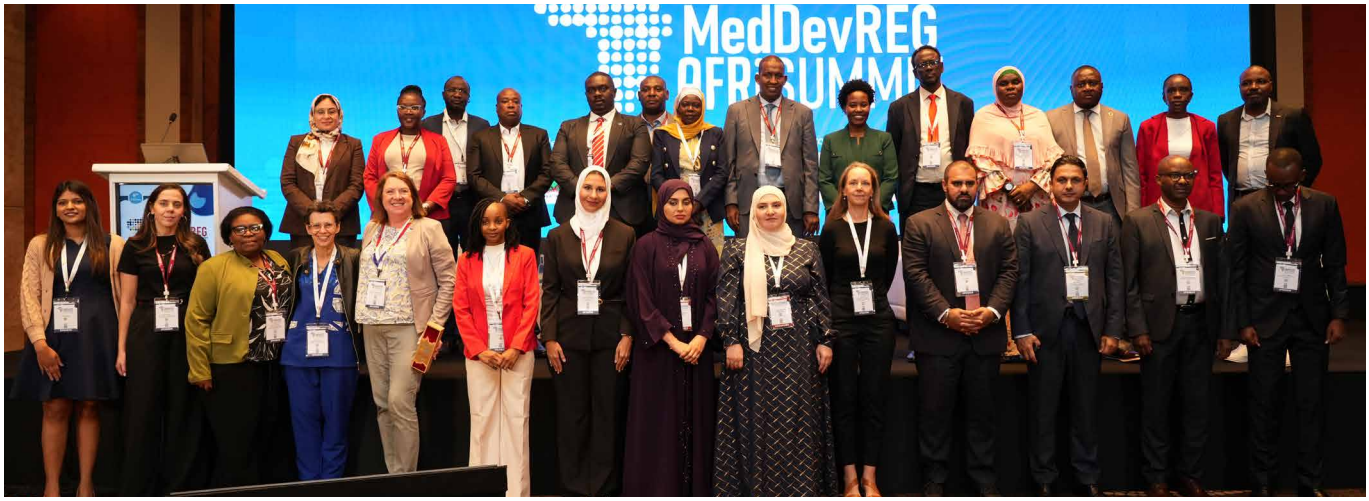
Efforts to harmonise medical device regulation across Africa are gaining ground, with greater emphasis on common regulatory standards, collaboration and reliance on trusted regulatory decisions to improve access to safe, quality-assured medical devices and in vitro diagnostics (IVDs).

Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) Head of Medical Devices, Dr Paulyne Wairimu, highlighted the role of the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation Initiative, African Medical Devices Forum and African Medicines Agency in advancing these efforts at AfriSummit 2026 on 1 October.

She underscored the need to address regulatory gaps, enhance post-market surveillance, embrace digital systems and support local manufacturing to build sustainable regulatory capacity across the continent.



Head of Medical Devices, Dr. Paulyne Wairimu makes her remarks during the summit



Kenya and Zambia Pursue Regulatory Cooperation



PPB Chairperson Dr. John Munyu MBS, CEO, Dr. Ahmed Mohamed during a meeting with the ZAMRA Director-General Mr. Makomani Siyanga.

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority (ZAMRA) are exploring closer collaboration to enhance regulatory oversight of health products and technologies and support local pharmaceutical manufacturing.

PPB Chairperson Dr John M. Munyu met ZAMRA Director-General Mr Makomani Siyanga on 28 September 2026, on the sidelines of the PharmaReg AfriSummit, to discuss areas of cooperation, including capacity building for assessors, inspectors and scientists.

Dr Munyu called for the formalisation of a Memorandum of Understanding to guide the partnership. PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed Mohamed and members of the Board's senior management were also present.



Regulatory Harmonisation to Reduce Duplication Across Africa

Greater collaboration among African regulatory authorities is essential to eliminating duplication in regulatory processes and improving access to safe, effective and quality-assured medicines and health technologies.

Dr Wilfred Ochieng of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) emphasised the importance of regulatory reliance, work-sharing and digitalisation in promoting efficient and coordinated regulatory systems across Africa.



Dr. Wilfred Ochieng among the Summit delegates



Dr. Wilfred Ochieng at panel on the future of pharmaceutical regulation

on the future of pharmaceutical regulation at the PharmaReg AfriSummit 2026 on 28 September, Dr Ochieng called for closer cooperation among national regulatory authorities, regional bodies and the African Medicines Agency to accelerate access to health products while safeguarding quality, safety and efficacy.

MEDISAFE II Partnership to Tackle Substandard and Falsified Medical Products



Dr. Edward Abwao, Head, Post Marketing Surveilance, chairs the meeting with MEDISAFE II team

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) is advancing efforts to combat substandard and falsified medical products through MEDISAFE II, a European Union-funded initiative implemented by Expertise France.

A delegation led by MEDISAFE II Regional Team Leader Mr Juan Cepeda visited the Board on 18 September 2026 to review progress and preparations for the project's official launch in November.

Building on the first phase, MEDISAFE II will support 13 African countries, including Kenya, in improving regulatory frameworks, law enforcement, cross-border cooperation, pharmaceutical supply chain security and public awareness.



The MEDISAFE II team during a meeting at the Pharmacy and Poisons Board headquarters

The engagement reaffirmed continued collaboration in safeguarding public health and improving access to quality-assured medical products. PPB Head of Post-Marketing Surveillance Dr Edward Abwao represented Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed Mohamed at the meeting.



Promoting Safe and Quality African Traditional Medicines



Health Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Aden Duale at the PPB exhibition table

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has called for greater adherence to regulatory standards to ensure the safety, quality and efficacy of African traditional medicines.

PPB Head of Herbal and Complementary Medicines Dr Edwin Burugu, representing Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed Mohamed at the African Traditional Medicine Day commemoration held at KEMRI on 31 August 2026, emphasised the importance of quality assurance, safety monitoring, scientific evidence, accurate dosing, standardised production and proper labelling to safeguard public health.

He urged traditional medicine practitioners to embrace ethical practices and regulatory compliance, noting that regulation protects consumers,



Dr. Emmanuel Munguti engages with a visitor at the exhibition table





PPB's Head of Herbal and Complimentary Medicines Dr. Edwin Burugu makes remarks during a panel discussion.

supports practitioners, safeguards traditional knowledge and builds public confidence in traditional medicines.

The Board also showcased its regulatory role through an exhibition at the event, which was presided over by Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale and featured discussions on



evidence-based regulation and integration of traditional medicines into healthcare.

Patient Safety at the Heart of Pharmaceutical Regulation



PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed Mohamed during a panel discussion at the Kenya Health Summit



The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring that Kenyans have access to safe, effective and quality medicines through robust regulatory oversight and compliance with pharmacy practice standards.

PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed Mohamed highlighted the Board's regulatory interventions, including product evaluation, laboratory testing, market surveillance and pharmacovigilance, at the Kenya Health Summit breakout session on Health Products and Technologies and Local Manufacturing on 18 August 2026.



PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr. Ahmed Mohamed among other panelists at the kenya Health Summit

He emphasised the importance of Good Pharmacy Practice Standards in improving pharmacy services and the critical role of pharmacists

and pharmaceutical technologists in promoting safe and responsible medicine use.

The session brought together panelists including Prof George Njoroge, Dr Frederick Mbogua, Dr Wesley Rono, Gerald Macharia and Dr David Odhiambo.



President Ruto Highlights Pharmaceutical Regulatory Reforms at Kenya Health Summit



Kenya's efforts to improve access to safe, effective and quality health products were among the key reforms showcased by the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) at the Kenya Health Summit 2026.

President Dr William Ruto visited the Board's exhibition stand on 18 August 2026, where PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed I. Mohamed briefed him on progress in product authorisation, medicine safety and regulatory oversight of pharmacy practice, medical devices and other health technologies.

The Board showcased reforms aimed at enhancing regulatory efficiency, strengthening compliance and protecting patients from unsafe health products as part of Kenya's broader health sector reforms.

The President was accompanied by Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang'ula, Principal Secretaries Dr Ouma Oluga and Ms Mary Muthoni, Director-General for Health Dr Patrick Amoth, United Nations Resident Coordinator Garry Conille, Cabinet Secretaries, Governors and other senior government officials and development partners.

Board Recognised for Contribution to Pharmaceutical Practice

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has been recognised by the Kenya Pharmaceutical Association (KPA) for its contribution to advancing pharmacy practice, promoting professional standards and safeguarding public health.

The recognition was presented on 1 August 2026 in appreciation of the Board's support for the 22nd KPA Annual Scientific Conference and its continued collaboration with pharmaceutical professionals.

KPA National Organising Secretary Mr Boaz Dulloh, alongside other association representatives, presented the award.

The Board reaffirmed its



The Award of Appreciation



KPA National Organising Secretary Mr. Boaz Dulloh hands over the ward to Ms. Esther Kamau during the Conference



Client engagement at the PPB exhibition booth

commitment to working with stakeholders across the pharmaceutical sector to enhance regulatory compliance, uphold professional standards and improve access to safe, effective and quality health products and technologies.

PPB Strengthens Access to Family Planning Services Through Community Pharmacies



PPB Director of Pharmacy Practice Dr. Wilfred Ochieng during a panel discussion at the 22nd KPA conference

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) is strengthening regulatory measures to support the safe provision of injectable contraceptive services in community pharmacies, expanding access to quality reproductive health services.

Speaking at the 22nd Kenya Pharmaceutical Association Annual Scientific Conference on 31st July 2026, PPB Director of Pharmacy Practice, Dr. Wilfred Ochieng, highlighted the recognition of trained pharmacists and pharmaceutical technologists as providers of injectable contraceptives under the 7th Edition Kenya National Family Planning Guidelines.

He outlined regulatory measures focusing on professional competency, compliance of pharmacy premises, accountability and continuous oversight to safeguard patient safety and quality of care.

Dr. Ochieng also highlighted efforts to strengthen pharmacovigilance through digital reporting platforms, mobile applications and capacity building to improve adverse event reporting.

The measures are expected to enhance the role of community pharmacies in primary health care while bringing safe, quality family planning services closer to communities.





PPB Board Member, Ms Serah Kisilu among the conference delegates

PPB Chairman Calls for Integrity and Compliance in Pharmaceutical Practice



PPB Chairperson Dr. John Munyu MBS, addresses the conference participants

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has called for greater professionalism, ethical practice and regulatory compliance across the pharmaceutical sector to safeguard patient safety and ensure access to quality medicines.

Speaking at the 22nd Kenya Pharmaceutical Association Scientific Conference held in Mombasa on 30th July 2026, PPB Chairman Dr. John M. Munyu, MBS, emphasised the shared responsibility of regulators and pharmaceutical professionals in strengthening medicine safety and securing the pharmaceutical supply chain.

He highlighted ongoing institutional reforms aimed at improving regulatory efficiency, transparency and accountability,



Public Health PS Mary Muthoni during the Kenya Pharmaceutical Association Annual Scientific conference in Mombasa

including the rollout of the National Authentication and Traceability System, Practice360 and Facility360.

Dr. Munyu urged pharmaceutical professionals and establishments to comply with Good Storage and Distribution Practice standards and complete onboarding onto the digital platforms by 31st October 2026, ahead of the 2027 licensing cycle.

The conference, officially opened by Principal Secretary for Public Health and Professional Standards Mary Muthoni, CBS, brought together pharmaceutical professionals, regulators and industry stakeholders to advance patient safety, medicine access and excellence in healthcare.



Strengthening Kenya's Competitiveness in Clinical Trials



PPB Director of Pharmacy Practice Dr. Wilfred Ochieng chairs a meeting with the CRSK team

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and the Clinical Research Society of Kenya (CRSK) are exploring measures to improve Kenya's competitiveness as a destination for clinical trials.

In a meeting held on 21st July 2026, the two institutions discussed clinical trial approval processes, site initiation timelines and a proposed parallel review framework to





enhance efficiency in clinical research.

The CRSK delegation, led by Prof. Walter Jaoko, engaged PPB officials in discussions chaired by Director of Pharmacy Practice Dr. Wilfred Ochieng, on behalf of Chief Executive Officer Dr. Ahmed Mohamed.

Both institutions agreed to maintain regular engagements to strengthen clinical trials oversight and support Kenya's growth as a centre of excellence in clinical research.

Parliamentary Health Committee Engages PPB on Pharmaceutical Regulation





Dr. Lorna Wangari demostrates the Raman technology to the Parliamentary Committee

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has outlined key regulatory reforms aimed at strengthening medicine safety, pharmaceutical practice and oversight of health products and technologies.

The reforms were highlighted during a consultative meeting with the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Health, chaired by Hon. Dr. James Nyikal, on 23rd July 2026, as part of the Committee's fact-finding mission on pharmaceutical sector regulation.

The Committee identified four priority areas requiring support: legislative reforms, addressing human resource gaps, attaining World Health Organization Maturity Level 3 and strengthening surveillance and enforcement at Ports of Entry.

PPB Chairperson Dr. John Munyu highlighted progress in implementing Good Storage and Distribution Practices, digital regulatory systems, Good Pharmacy Practice Guidelines and measures supporting local pharmaceutical manufacturing.

The engagement underscored the importance of parliamentary support in strengthening regulatory oversight and safeguarding public access to safe, quality and effective health products and technologies.





Medicine Safety and Regulatory Reforms Feature in National Health Summit Preparations



Health Cabinet Secretary, Hon. aden Duale addresses Health Sector Partners and Stakeholders Breakfast meeting

Strengthening medicine regulation, pharmaceutical manufacturing and health commodity security featured among key priorities discussed at a Health Sector Partners and Stakeholders' Breakfast Meeting held on 16th July 2026 ahead of the Presidential National Health Summit.

PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr. Ahmed Mohamed participated in the meeting led by Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale, alongside Principal Secretaries Dr. Ouma Oluga and Mary Muthoni.



PPB Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ahmed Mohamed, during the partners and stakeholders breakfast meeting

The engagement brought together development partners, professional bodies, private sector representatives and civil society organisations to discuss health financing, digital health, primary health care and Universal Health Coverage.

The Summit will provide an opportunity for PPB to showcase its contribution to medicine safety, regulatory reforms and strengthening Kenya's health products and technologies sector.



Health Cabinet Secretary, Hon. aden Duale alogside Public Health PS Mary Muthoni and Medical Servies PS, Pr. Ouma Oluga, during the parners partners and stakeholders breakfast meeting

Board Reaffirms Commitment to Collective Bargaining Agreement



PPB Chief Executive Officer during the meeting on Collective Bargaining Agreement



The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has reaffirmed its commitment to implementing the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and maintaining constructive engagement with employee representatives.

PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr. Ahmed Mohamed gave the assurance during a meeting with the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union (KMPDU) Nairobi Branch officials,

led by Dr. Bill Muriuki, on 15th July 2026.

Dr. Mohamed confirmed that employees covered under the agreement are remunerated in accordance with its provisions.

The engagement provided an opportunity for the union's new branch leadership to engage PPB management on labour relations and implementation of the agreement.

Regulatory Efficiency and Trade Facilitation Discussed with Roche Diagnostics



PPB Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ahmed Mohamed poses for a group photo with represenattives of Roche Diagnostics Group after the meeting

Improving regulatory efficiency in the importation and exportation of health products and technologies was the focus of discussions between the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and Roche Diagnostics on 15th July 2026.

PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr. Ahmed Mohamed met a Roche Diagnostics delegation led by East Africa Lead Dr. Taofik Oloruko-Oba to explore collaboration on import and export permit processes, regulatory timelines and capacity building.

Dr. Mohamed highlighted ongoing institutional reforms aimed at streamlining regulatory procedures, improving service delivery and facilitating efficient trade processes.

The engagement underscored PPB's commitment to transparent regulatory processes and continued collaboration with industry stakeholders.

Strengthening Industry Collaboration to Improve Access to Quality Health Products



The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) and Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF) have committed to continued engagement on regulatory processes affecting the availability and supply of health products and technologies.

In a meeting held on 14th July 2026, PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr. Ahmed Mohamed and KHF Chief Executive Officer Dr. Anne Musuva discussed import and export permits, product registration and re-registration, regulation of online pharmacies and the regulatory framework for radiopharmaceuticals.

Dr. Mohamed reaffirmed PPB's commitment to ensuring safe, quality and effective health products and technologies are available in the Kenyan market.

The two institutions agreed to strengthen regulator–industry dialogue to enhance compliance, improve regulatory efficiency and address emerging sector priorities.





Medicine Traceability and Regulatory Reforms to Feature at National Health Summit



Health Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale makes his remarks during the meeting

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) will highlight progress in medicine regulation, digital regulatory systems and pharmaceutical supply chain integrity at the Presidential National Health Summit 2026.

PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr. Ahmed I. Mohamed participated in the inaugural National Planning Committee meeting chaired by Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale on 6th July 2026.

The meeting brought together senior Ministry of Health officials, heads of regulatory agencies and other health sector leaders to coordinate preparations for the Summit.

PPB's participation will focus on showcasing regulatory achievements in health products and technologies, medicine traceability and public health protection in support of Universal Health Coverage.





Participants follow proceedings during the meeting

Advancing Women's Leadership in Healthcare



Public Health & Professional Standards PS Mary Muthoni among other women representatives during Women in Heathcare Kenya Convention

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has reaffirmed its commitment to promoting women's participation in leadership and decision-making within the healthcare sector.

The commitment was highlighted at the Women in Healthcare Kenya Convention held on 4th July 2026 under the theme, "Connect. Share. Grow."

The PPB delegation, led by Dr. Christabel Khaemba, participated in discussions on women's leadership, professional growth and opportunities within healthcare.



Women in Health during the convention

Dr. Khaemba highlighted the Board's affirmative action efforts to increase women's representation in leadership and decision-making positions.

PPB also sponsored the convention and hosted an exhibition booth to raise awareness of its regulatory mandate in safeguarding public health through oversight of health products and technologies.





Government Establishes Coordinated Response to Substandard and Falsified Medical Products



Kenya has strengthened its coordinated response to substandard and falsified medical products following the inauguration of the Interministerial Steering Committee to oversee implementation of the National Action Plan.

Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale inaugurated the Committee on 1st July 2026, bringing together government institutions responsible for regulation, surveillance, enforcement and pharmaceutical supply chain oversight.

The initiative seeks to improve the prevention, detection, investigation and response to substandard and falsified medical products.

The Cabinet Secretary commended the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) for strengthening post-market surveillance, pharmacovigilance, product quality monitoring and enforcement.

The Committee will support coordinated national efforts to protect patients and ensure access to safe, quality and effective medical products.



Health Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale during the meeting



Board Chairman Calls for Stronger Action Against Falsified Medicines



PPB Chairperson Dr. John Munyu MBS, makes his remarks during the meeting



Health Cabinet Secretary Hon Aden Duale addresses the meeting participants

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) has called for stronger collaboration among regulatory agencies, law enforcement institutions and healthcare stakeholders to protect Kenyans from substandard and falsified medical products.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Interministerial Steering Committee on 1st July 2026, PPB Chairperson Dr. John M. Munyu, MBS, highlighted reforms

undertaken to strengthen pharmaceutical regulation and supply chain integrity.

These include mandatory re-registration of legacy medical products, enhanced surveillance at ports of entry, risk-based inspections, enforcement and expanded pharmacovigilance systems.

Dr. Munyu emphasised that tackling substandard and falsified medical products requires a coordinated national approach involving government institutions, industry stakeholders and development partners.

He reaffirmed PPB's commitment to supporting the National Action Plan and strengthening regulatory systems to safeguard medicine quality and patient safety.



Group photo of the meeting participants

Pictorial...

AfriSummit 2026







Quality-assured generic medicines depend on credible and sustainable bioequivalence systems.
In a panel discussion titled "A Collaborative Path Forward for Strengthening Bioequivalence Ecosystems in Africa" at PharmaReg AfriSummit 2026, Pharmacy and Poisons Board Head of Bioequivalence Unit, Dr. Felistas Chepwogen, called for clear regulatory guidance, predictable timelines, phased implementation and sustained engagement with manufacturers.
She also emphasised harmonised standards, shared technical expertise and greater regulatory reliance to reduce duplication while maintaining rigorous scientific standards and protecting patients.

World Patient Safety Day





The Pharmacy and Poisons Board joined the global healthcare community in marking World Patient Safety Day 2026 under the theme, "Safe Care for Noncommunicable Diseases."
The day highlights the importance of patient safety, preventive healthcare, healthy lifestyles and quality care for people living with or at risk of noncommunicable diseases.

Pictorial...

Kenya Pharmaceutical Association Annual Scientific Conference






Between 30th July and 1st August, 2026, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) exhibited at the 22nd Kenya Pharmaceutical Association (KPA) Annual Scientific Conference, that took place from 30th July to 1st August 2026 in Mombasa.
This year's theme was "Optimizing Pharmaceutical Practice to Advance Patient Safety, Medicine Access, and Healthcare Excellence."
The conference participants trooped the PPB's exhibition booth to gain knowledge on regulatory services, digital platforms, and ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening the regulation of pharmacy practice, medical products, and health technologies in Kenya.

Kenya Health Summit








Conversations on medicine safety and effective health-product regulation took centre stage at the Pharmacy and Poisons Board exhibition booth during the Kenya Health Summit 2026.
PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed Mohamed engaged with stakeholders on the Board's role in ensuring access to safe, quality and effective medicines, health products and technologies.
Every medicine, medical device and health technology must meet the required standards before reaching a patient.
At the Kenya Health Summit 2026, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board demonstrated how reforms in product authorisation, safety monitoring, pharmacy practice, Track and Trace, and post-market surveillance are strengthening patient protection.

Mission for Essential Drugs Supplies 40th Anniversary







On September 29, 2026 the Pharmacy and Poisons Board CEO Dr. Ahmed Mohamed joined Cabinet Secretary for Health Hon. Aden Duale at the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies.
The event recognised MEDS' contribution to the sourcing, testing, quality assurance and distribution of essential medicines and health products since 1986. It also marked the launch of MEDS Devane Company Limited.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

REGULATORY NOTICE

IMPLEMENTATION OF AUTHENTICATION AND TRACEABILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTH PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGIES AND ONBOARDING ON PRACTICE 360 AND FACILITY 360

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board ("the Board") is mandated under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, CAP 244 Laws of Kenya to protect and promote public health by ensuring access to quality, safe, and efficacious Health Products and Technologies ("HPTs").

Implementation of Authentication and Traceability System

1. The Board wishes to notify all stakeholders that Section 17(h) of the Digital Health Act, 2023 establishes a Comprehensive Integrated Health Information System to support the authentication, tracking and tracing of HPTs throughout the supply chain.
2. Pursuant to this statutory requirement, the Board, in collaboration with the Digital Health Agency (DHA), has commenced implementation of the National Authentication and Traceability System for HPTs.
3. Additionally, the Board, in collaboration with DHA, has undertaken stakeholder engagement, sensitization and consultations on the implementation of the Authentication and Traceability System through national and sector-specific forums held between 7th and 13th July 2026.
4. In order to facilitate a phased implementation of the Authentication and Traceability System, the Board hereby notifies stakeholders as follows:
5. Following the go-live of the System on **3rd August 2026**, a transition period shall apply until 31st December 2026, during which Authentication and Traceability for both locally manufactured and imported HPTs shall be implemented through Batch-Level Traceability using batch numbers declared to the Board.
6. Effective **1st January 2027**, all HPTs manufactured locally or imported into Kenya shall comply with the full national Authentication and Traceability requirements, including Batch-Level Traceability and Unit-Level Serialization compliant with GS1 Standards.
7. Therefore, in preparation for piloting and go-live of the Authentication and Traceability System on 3rd August 2026, all Marketing Authorization Holders, manufacturers, importers and Local Technical Representatives shall be called upon by DHA to submit the required data in line with the requirements set out in paragraph 4 above.
8. All Marketing Authorization Holders, manufacturers, importers and Local Technical Representatives are required to complete the necessary system integration and implementation activities to ensure full compliance by 1st January 2027.
9. Wholesale dealers, distributors, retail pharmacies and other downstream supply chain actors shall be onboarded onto the Authentication and

Traceability System in accordance with the same implementation timelines set out in paragraph 4 above. The Board, in collaboration with DHA, shall issue further guidance on the specific requirements applicable to these actors.

10. Detailed data specifications, submission templates and integration guidelines shall be communicated by DHA.

Onboarding on Practice 360 and Facility 360

1. Section 16(e) of the Digital Health Act, 2023 provides that the Comprehensive Integrated Health Information System shall comprise shared or common resources, including the facility registry and health worker registry.
2. In implementation of these statutory requirements, the Board, in collaboration with the DHA, has developed and is implementing Facility 360 and Practice 360 to operationalize the facility registry and health worker registry for the pharmacy profession.
3. To facilitate implementation, the Board in collaboration with the DHA conducted a national stakeholder sensitization on the digital platforms on 7th July 2026.
4. Accordingly, the Board, hereby requires all pharmaceutical premises, Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Technologists to complete onboarding onto Facility 360 and Practice 360 not later than **31st October 2026.**
5. Completion of onboarding shall be a prerequisite for the processing of applications during the 2027 Annual Licensing Cycle.
6. Stakeholders are therefore encouraged to complete onboarding well in advance of the deadline to facilitate timely processing of annual practice and premise licences.

Stakeholder Support

1. The Board in collaboration with the DHA shall continue to provide technical support, stakeholder engagement and implementation guidance.
2. Additional implementation guidelines and technical specifications shall be communicated where necessary.
3. The Board appreciates the continued cooperation of all stakeholders in supporting the implementation of Kenya's integrated digital health ecosystem and strengthening the regulation, oversight and traceability of HPTs.

The Board remains committed to protecting and safeguarding public health, and will continue to provide the necessary technical guidance to support sustained regulatory compliance.

Dr. Ahmed I. Mohamed
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
21st July 2026

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

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



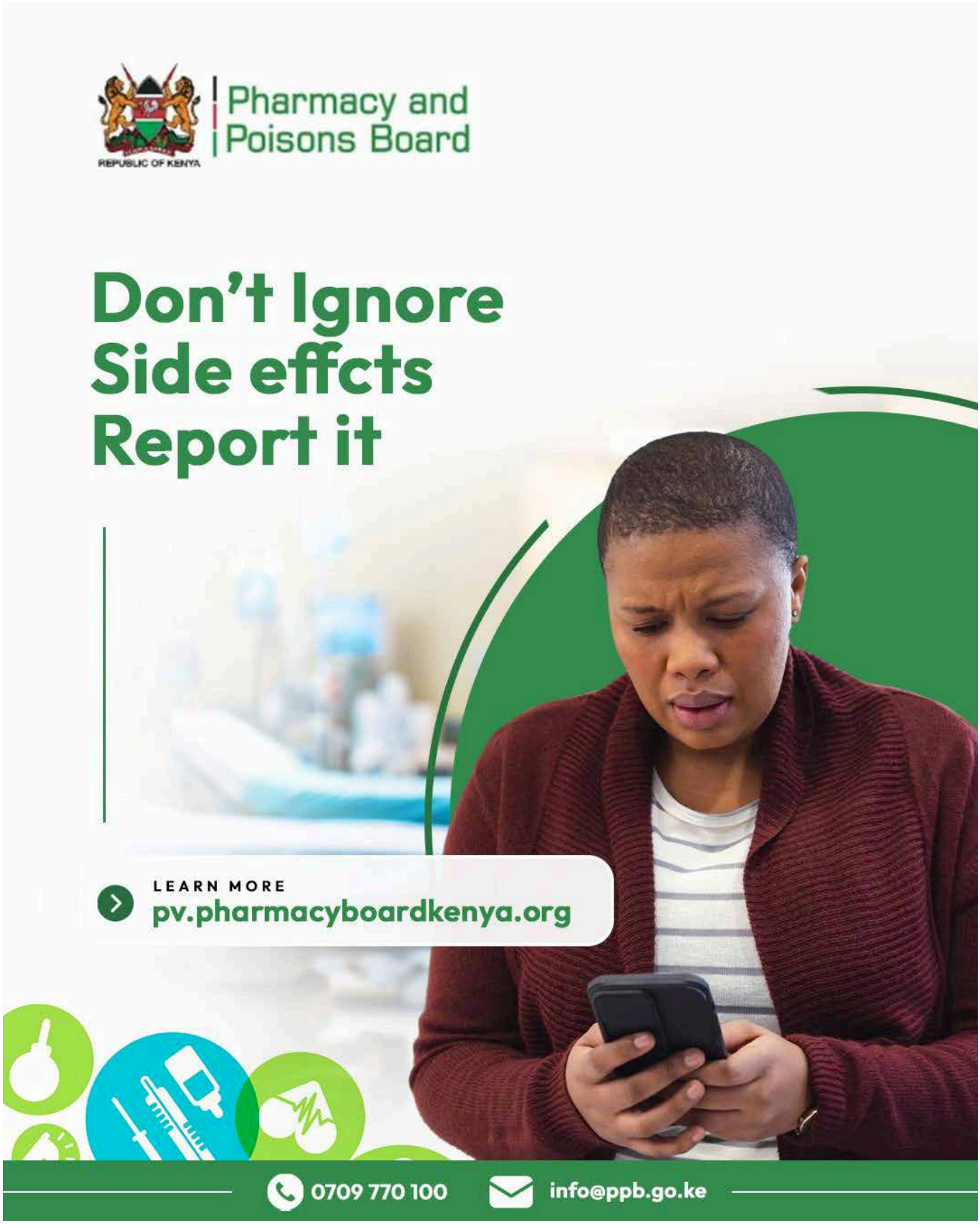
Dr. Ahmed. I. Mohamed
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
24th September 2026

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






Pharmacy and Poisons Board
REPUBLIC OF KENYA
Substandard and Falsified Medical Products Have No Place in Our Communities
Unlicensed sellers bypass essential safety and quality requirements. Protect yourself and your community by buying medicines only from licensed outlets.
Report suspected cases: 0709 770 100
Prescription Medical
REPORT VIA
web.pharmacyboardkenya.org
0709 770 100
info@ppb.go.ke


REPUBLIC OF KENYA
Pharmacy and Poisons Board
Don't Ignore Side effcts Report it
LEARN MORE
pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org
0709 770 100
info@ppb.go.ke

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD

STOP ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE!

You can help prevent AMR by:



- ✓ Using antibiotics only when prescribed
- ✓ Completing your full treatment
- ✓ Never sharing or using leftover antibiotics
- ✓ Practicing good hygiene & vaccination to prevent infections
- ✓ Avoiding self-medication & over-the-counter antimicrobials
- ✓ Disposing of antimicrobials safely

YOUR ACTIONS TODAY PROTECT FUTURE GENERATIONS!