Quality Medicines for Malawi

PRESS RELEASE

WHO MEDICAL PRODUCT ALERT N°2/2024: FALSIFIED OZEMPIC (SEMAGLUTIDE)

Lilongwe, Monday, 24th June, 2024: The Pharmacy and Medicines Regulatory Authority (PMRA) is informing stakeholders and the general public that the World Health Organisation (WHO) has issued an alert concerning three falsified batches of OZEMPIC (semaglutide) which were detected in Brazil, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

OZEMPIC (semaglutide), whose manufacturer is Novo Nordisk, is used for the treatment of hyperglycemia (high blood sugar levels) in type 2 diabetes in adults, adolescents, and children over 12 years of age.

According to the WHO alert, the three subject products listed below misrepresent their identity and source as they were not manufactured by Novo Nordisk:

- batch number LP6F832 is not recognized.
- the combination of batch number NAR0074 with serial number 430834149057 does not correspond to genuine manufacturing records.
- batch number MP5E511 is genuine, but the product is falsified.

PMRA is assuring stakeholders and the general public that OZEMPIC (semaglutide) is not registered with the Authority, making it very unlikely for the subject falsified products to be available in the country.

However, in case anyone has any of the affected products, PMRA recommends that you do not use them and report to the Authority immediately.

PMRA is requesting pharmaceutical importers, retailers, healthcare workers, and consumers to be vigilant at all times and report any suspected falsified medicines or adverse drug reactions to the nearest healthcare facility and to the PMRA through by dialing *360# for free on TNM and Airtel networks.

The Authority is calling for increased vigilance to guard against importation of unlicensed products and all stakeholders are being encouraged to report to PMRA or any nearest public health facility promptly when they find these products or any illegal products within the country's supply chain.

Off Paul Kagame, Chilambula Road | P.O. Box 30241, Capital City, Lilongwe, Malawi | Phone: +265 212 755 165 | +265 212 750 108 | Email: info@pmra.mw | Website: www.pmra.mw

The Authority remains steadfast in ensuring that medicines and allied substances being used in the country are of acceptable quality, safe and efficacious in line with our mandate as provided for under the PMRA Act

More information about the alert can be accessed by clicking on the following link: Medical Product Alert N°2/2024

For media enquiries, please contact PMRA Public Relations Officer on 0885313011 or email at jjosiah@pmra.mw

Mphatso Kawaye
DIRECTOR GENERAL