



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



FDA ADVISORY
No. **2018-118**

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TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC

RE: Intensified Campaign Against Counterfeit Pharmaceutical Products

The FDA is again reminding the public to be more vigilant in buying drug products as it has noted that counterfeit pharmaceutical products have become prevalent in the local market. The FDA warns that counterfeit pharmaceutical products pose serious threat to public health and safety. Their effectivity is unverified and questionable. They may worsen illness and disease. They may cause serious adverse health consequences, another disease, drug resistance, or worst, death.

Counterfeit pharmaceutical products are those which either:

- contain the wrong ingredient;
- have no active ingredient; or
- have the correct/active ingredients but in insufficient amount.

Often, counterfeit pharmaceutical products are usually deliberately and fraudulently mislabelled.

The FDA cites the all-out support of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte for the campaign to curtail the proliferation of fake drugs in the market. It sends a strong message that the government is serious in its fight against these counterfeit pharmaceutical products.

Through the Task Force D-PUNCH [Destroy Products Unfit for Consumption of Humans], the FDA is working closely with the Philippine National Police (PNP) in monitoring and investigating reports involving the activities of a number of unscrupulous manufacturers, distributors, traffickers and traders of counterfeit pharmaceutical products. Headed by PCSupt. Allen B. Bantolo (ret.), Task Force D-PUNCH is working towards the immediate arrest of these perpetrators for violation of Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8203 or the Special Law on Counterfeit Drugs and other related laws, rules and regulations.

The FDA seeks the help and cooperation of the Local Government Units (LGUs) and Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), the concerned establishments and the public in general to reduce, and eventually eradicate, counterfeit pharmaceutical products in the local market.

All (LGUs) and (LEAs) are requested to ensure that counterfeit pharmaceutical products, as posted in the FDA's website, or as they may suspect to be counterfeit (for submission and verification by the FDA), are not sold or made available in their localities or areas of jurisdiction

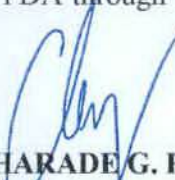
All concerned establishments and outlets are also warned against selling and/or dispensing counterfeit pharmaceutical products as posted in the FDA's website, or as they may suspect to be counterfeit (for submission and verification by the FDA).



The public is advised not to buy pharmaceutical products from establishments or online stores operating without the necessary government permits. The FDA urges the consuming public to purchase medicine and other health products only from government licensed pharmacies and make sure that they have the appropriate FDA marketing authorizations.

For more information and inquiries, please e-mail us at info@fda.gov.ph.

To report continuous sale or distribution of unregistered and/or counterfeit health products, kindly e-mail us via report@fda.gov.ph, or through the online reporting facility, **eReport**, at www.fda.gov.ph/ereport. You may also call the Center for Drug Regulation and Research at telephone number (02) 809-5596. For any suspected adverse drug reaction (ADR), report immediately to FDA through this link: www.fda.gov.ph/adr-report-new and fill out all the required fields.



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