



PHARMACY BOARD OF SIERRA LEONE

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Central Medical Stores
New England Ville,
Freetown,
Sierra Leone
P.M.B 322

Our Ref: _____

Your Ref:

13th February, 2018

Dear Healthcare Professional, (Doctor, Pharmacist, Pharm Tech, Nurse, CHO, Consumer)

REPORTING INCIDENTS OF THERAPEUTIC INEFFECTIVENESS/FAILURE AS ADVERSE EVENTS

The National Pharmacovigilance Centre of the Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone (PBSL) promotes the detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of adverse effects and other medicines related problems in hospitals, public health programmes, clinics and amongst consumers.

Treatment failure or ineffectiveness of medicines depends on a complex interplay of patient, medicine and other medical factors. It may be due to **wrong diagnosis, selection of an inappropriate drug or dosage, use of Falsified and Counterfeit medicinal products (FC), patient's non-adherence, a drug's poor bioavailability, medication error, product quality defects, drug interactions, tachyphylaxis or drug resistance**. Failures can occur at every step of the life cycle of medicines such as development, marketing, distribution, prescription, dispensing, and use of the drug.

The National Pharmacovigilance Centre of the Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone has received few reports of treatment failure or ineffectiveness. However, anecdotal reports have indicated that there are similar cases that are not reported by healthcare professionals (Doctors, Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, Nurses, CHOs etc) and consumers to the PBSL. Some of these products:

1. *Contain impurities at levels higher than Pharmacopoeia standards,*
2. *Contain no Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) or lower levels of API than the Pharmacopoeia standards and*
3. *Are not registered by PBSL.*

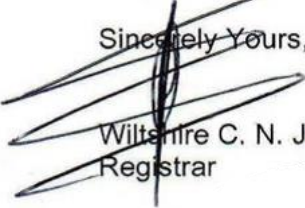
The Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone hereby encourages all health care professionals and consumers to closely monitor patients under their care and report any suspected treatment failure using the PBSL's Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) Reporting Form in your facilities.

All Adverse reactions to medicines, vaccines, food supplements, herbals, traditional medicines and medical devices should be reported to the National Pharmacovigilance Centre, Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone, Central Medical Stores Compound, New England Ville Freetown. **You can download the adverse drug**

reaction form from our website www.pharmacyboard.gov.sl or report online by clicking the Report an ADR on the PBSL website.

The National Pharmacovigilance Centre can be contacted on mobile: **025282886** or e-mail: info@pharmacyboard.gov.sl

Sincerely Yours,



Wilshire C. N. Johnson
Registrar