



ZAMBIA MEDICINES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: 1st July 2026

To: Distributors, Wholesalers, Retailers, Livestock Farmers, General Public

URGENT PUBLIC ALERT:

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF SUSPECTED FALSIFIED VETERINARY ANTIBIOTIC MEDICINES ON THE ZAMBIAN MARKET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – The Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority (ZAMRA) is a statutory body established under an Act of Parliament, the Medicines and Allied Substances Act No. 3 of 2013 of the Laws of Zambia. The main mandate of ZAMRA is to ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of medicines and allied substances for human and animal health protection.

On this background, the Authority wishes to notify all Distributors, Wholesalers, Retailers, Livestock Farmers and the General Public on the availability of suspected falsified veterinary antibiotic medicines currently circulating on the Zambian Market. Currently, the products have been identified in Lusaka, Monze and Kalomo Districts and include the following listed in the table below:

Product details:

s/n	Name of Product	Stated Manufacturer	MA No.	Batch No.	Mfg. Date	Exp. Date
1.	Terramycin/LA (Oxytetracycline 200mg/ml) Injectable Solution	Pfizer Laboratories (Pty) Ltd., Sandton	Not Stated	30453013DA	Dec-23	Dec-26
2.	Procaben LA (Procaine Penicillin G 150,000IU/Benzathine Penicillin G 150,000IU) Injection	Interchemie werken, Holland	Not Stated	365422	09/2025	02/2028

The registered manufacturers of the above-mentioned products have confirmed that these products were not manufactured by them and are therefore falsified.

How to Identify These Products:

On close examination, the labels of both products appear to have been constructed using ordinary printed paper which easily tears and gets wet; and have been unevenly stuck on the product bottles with uneven boundaries.

For Terramycin/LA Injection, the authorized manufacturer is Zoetis South Africa (Pty) Ltd., South Africa; and not the stated manufacturer on the falsified product (Pfizer Laboratories (Pty) Ltd., Sandton). In addition, the shelf life (time from manufacturing date to expiry date of a product) of the authentic product is two (02) years, whereas that stated on the falsified product is three (03) years.

For Procaben LA Injection, the stated manufacturer on the falsified product is the authentic manufacturer i.e. Interchemie werken, Holland. However, the shelf life of the authentic product is two (02) years, whereas that stated on the falsified product is two (02) years five (05) months. In addition, the falsified product forms a light cream-coloured suspension on shaking, with visible foam at the top, settles much faster and separates into two visible layers (yellowish liquid at the top and whitish solid at the bottom). On the other hand, the authentic product forms a thick white suspension on shaking, with little foam and takes much longer to settle, with no visible separation in the product.

Risk:

Antibiotics are crucial in the treatment of bacterial infections in livestock. The use of either substandard or falsified veterinary antibiotics does not only provide a lack of efficacy and safety to the treated animals but also causes a risk to human safety through the consumption of food from animals treated with such medicines. In addition, there is an increased risk of zoonotic infections and contributes to the rise in antibiotic resistance.

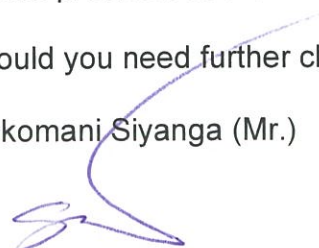
Actions Required

If you are in possession of the above-stated product batches, please do not use them or sale them. All pharmaceutical outlets and members of the public in possession of these products should place them in quarantine and return them to their supplier(s) or place of purchase OR contact the Authority on +260 211 432 350 or +260 211 432 351 or +260 211 432 352 or via email at pharmacy@zamra.co.zm.

Members of the public are cautioned to only buy medicines and allied substances from registered pharmaceutical wholesalers or retailers. Any person with additional information on the source of the above-sated products may contact the Authority through the contact details provided above.

Should you need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact our Secretariat.

Makomani Siyanga (Mr.)


DIRECTOR-GENERAL

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