[Medical Product Alert]

Subject: FALSIFIED CHLOROQUINE PRODUCTS CIRCULATING IN THE WHO REGION OF AFRICA.

I am directed to refer to WHO's Medical Product Alert No. 4/2020 dated 09th April, 2020 which relates to a number of confirmed falsified chloroquine products circulating in the WHO region of Africa. The said Medical Product Alert states that;

"Between 31st March and 02nd April, 2020, WHO global surveillance and monitoring system on substandard and falsified (SF) products received nine reports of confirmed falsified chloroquine products (see table 1. below) from three countries. All reported products were identified at patient level and all have been confirmed as falsified.

Table 1: List of identified falsified chloroquine products, subject to WHO Alert No.4/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified In</th>
<th>Product Name</th>
<th>Stated Manufacturer</th>
<th>Batch No.</th>
<th>Expiry Date</th>
<th>Date of Manufacture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Chloroquine Phosphate (100mg)</td>
<td>Jiangsu Pharmaceutical Inc.</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>05/2021</td>
<td>05/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chloroquine Phosphate (250mg)</td>
<td>Jiangsu Pharmaceutical Inc.</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>09/2022</td>
<td>09/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chloroquine Phosphate (250mg)</td>
<td>Astral Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>EBT 2542</td>
<td>10/2022</td>
<td>01/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>CLOROQUINE 250mg</td>
<td>Dawa Limited</td>
<td>1605059</td>
<td>04/2023</td>
<td>05/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chloroquine Phosphate (250mg)</td>
<td>Brown &amp; Burk Pharmaceutical Limited</td>
<td>065622</td>
<td>11/2022</td>
<td>11/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Samquine 100 (100mg)</td>
<td>None Indicated</td>
<td>NBJT01</td>
<td>10/2022</td>
<td>11/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chloroquine Phosphate Tablets B.P.</td>
<td>None Indicated</td>
<td>HV1116</td>
<td>05/2023</td>
<td>06/2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is important to note that widespread vigilance is required for all countries, regardless of where the product was originally identified. All products listed in Table 1 are confirmed as falsified, on the basis that they deliberately/fraudulently misrepresented their identity, composition or source. Indeed, it can be noted that:

- **EITHER**: the products do not contain the correct amount of the active pharmaceutical ingredient, based on the results of preliminary or full compendial analysis;

- **AND/OR**: the products were not produced by the manufacturer whose name is stated on the product labels, and the variable data (batch number and dates) of the above products do not correspond to genuine manufacturing records;

- **AND/OR**: the manufacturer whose name is stated on the product labels does not exist.

**WHO** requests increased vigilance within the supply chains of countries likely to be affected by these falsified products. Increased vigilance should include hospitals, clinics, health centers, wholesalers, distributors, pharmacies and any other suppliers of medical products.

02. If anyone is in possession of the above stated products, please do not use. If anyone has used these falsified products, or if anyone suffers an adverse reaction/event having used these products, it is advised to seek immediate medical advice from a qualified healthcare professional, and to report the incident to Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan/ National Pharmacovigilance Centre.

03. All medical products must be obtained from licensed, authentic and reliable sources. Their authenticity and condition should be carefully checked. Seek advice from a healthcare professional in case of doubt.

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(Muhammad Ashfaq)
Assistant Director QC-I

Copy for information and necessary action – with request to issue necessary directions to points of use/sale (Hospitals Pharmacies, Medical stores, Distributors, Whole sellers, etc) under administrative control/ fall under area of jurisdiction, please.

1. The Secretary (SHC&ME) Health Department (Government of Punjab).
2. The Secretary Primary and Secondary Health Department (Government of Punjab).
3. The Secretary Health Department (Government of Sindh).
4. The Secretary (SHC&ME) Health Department (Government of KPK).
5. The Secretary (SHC&ME) Health Department (Government of Baluchistan).
6. The Secretary (SHC&ME) Health Department (Government of AJ&K).
7. The Director General Health, M/o NHSR&C, Islamabad.
8. The Director General Health, Government of Punjab.
10. The Director General Health, Government of KPK.
11. The Director General Health, Government of Baluchistan.
12. The Director General Health, Government of AJ&K.
13. The Additional Director DRAP, Lahore.
15. The Additional Director DRAP, Islamabad.
16. The Additional Director DRAP, Peshawar.
17. The Additional Director DRAP, Quetta.
21. The Chief Drug Inspector KPK.
22. The Chief Drug Inspector G.B.
23. The Chief Drug Inspector AJ&K.

Copy to: -
  i. The Director, QA&LT, DRAP, Islamabad.
  ii. The Additional Director MIS with request to upload it on official website in the larger interest of public.
  iii. PS to CEO, DRAP, Islamabad.
  iv. Office copy.

Assistant Director (QC-I) 14-09-2020

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