

Public Notice – Drug Alert

Falsified Emergency Contraceptive circulating in Africa

The Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone as part of its legal mandate to ensure that only good quality, safe and efficacious medicines and other regulated products are on the Sierra Leone’s market hereby informs the general public that a falsified versions of Postinor-2 (Levonorgestrel) is circulating in East Africa.

Postinor-2 is a widely used emergency contraceptive that should contain 0.75mg of levonorgestrel. The genuine product is manufactured by Gedeon Richter.

In August 2015, the Uganda National Drug Authority notified WHO of the seizure of falsified Postinor-2 discovered in Kampala, Uganda. All packs reported bear the same batch number and expiry/manufacturing dates.

The details of the product are as follows:

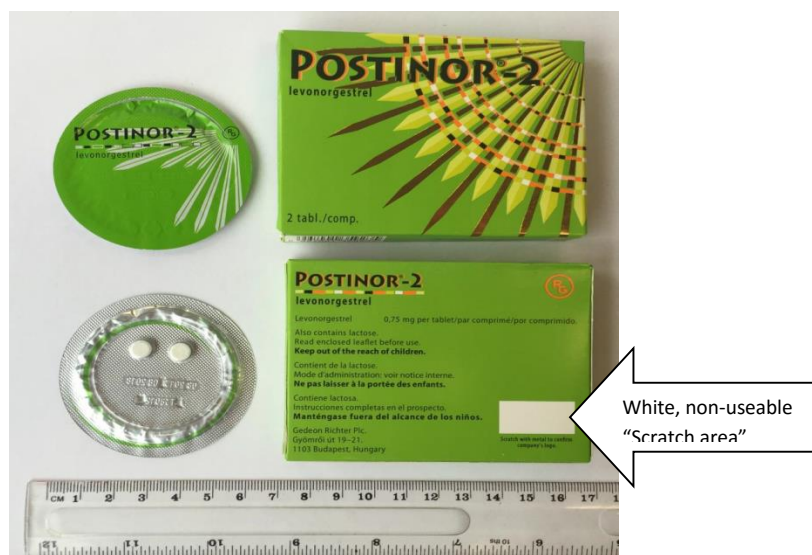
Product Name: Postinor-2

Batch Number: T38012

Manufacturing Date: 08 2013

Expiry Date: 08 2018

There is a non-useable white “scratch area” on the reverse side of the pack. The packaging is in English, French and Spanish languages. The batch number and manufacturing/expiry dates relate to a genuine batch of Postinor-2. Laboratory analysis has shown that the product contains zero active pharmaceutical ingredients. Furthermore, the manufacturers of genuine Postinor-2 have confirmed the packaging is falsified.



If you are in possession of the same batch of Postinor-2 shown on the above photograph and with a non-useable white “scratch area” on the reverse side of the pack please do not use, contact a Pharmacist or a Doctor as soon as possible for advice and report the incident to the Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone.

If you have any information concerning the supply of this product please contact the Pharmacy Board of Sierra Office at the Central Medical Stores, New England Ville, Freetown or our regional offices in Bo, Kenema, Makeni and Kono.

The Pharmacy Board requests increased vigilance from the general public for this falsified product and to forward all products containing the above mentioned batch to the Board for further regulatory action.

Signed:

Wiltshire C. N. Johnson
Registrar, Pharmacy Board SL