

STOP SUBSTANDARD AND FALSIFIED MEDICINES IN HEALTH FACILITIES

Good morning, Pharmacist Sarah and Dr. Innocent. It's our duty as health workers to assure the quality of medicines to prevent substandard and falsified medicines getting into our hospital!



I agree. From now on we should always **select and procure** medicine products from **authorized and reputable manufacturers and suppliers only**. We should also pay them a visit to **inspect the storage conditions before purchase** and during subsequent chain supply of medicines concerned.

That is a very good idea! Substandard and falsified medicines are a real public health danger. As a first step, **let us implement WHO or EPN guidelines on Good Pharmacy Practices in our facility**



That's right! In addition, I will use a **CHECKLIST** for receiving all incoming supplies and for routine visual inspection of medicines at the store and at all the service delivery points i.e. dispensing area, wards, out patient injection room e.t.c



Those two actions will help us to **identify and isolate any suspect medicine**, so that we don't dispense them to patients or supply them. We will also send a sample to the Nearest GPHF- MINILAB for quality testing and also report the case to our Medicine Regulatory Authority.

Wow! This discussion has been very helpful. The pharmacy department is fully supporting the plan. As the Pharmacy in-Charge I will ensure all the measures discussed today are implemented. In summary, we have agreed to....



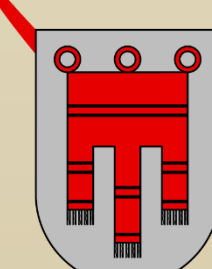
1. IMPLEMENT WHO/EPN GUIDELINES ON GOOD PHARMACY PRACTICES IN OUR FACILITY;
2. SELECT ONLY QUALITY ASSURED MEDICINE PRODUCTS FROM PRE-QUALIFIED AUTHORIZED AND REPUTABLE MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS;
3. PUT IN PLACE A QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY FOR CHECKING ALL INCOMING ORDERS;
4. INSPECT MEDICINES AT THE STORE AT A PREDETERMINED SCHEDULE AND AT SERVICE DELIVERY POINTS BEFORE ANY ADMINISTRATION OR DISPENSING TO PATIENTS; AND LASTLY;
5. ISOLATE AND STOP THE USE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICINES SUSPECTED TO BE SUBSTANDARD AND FALSIFIED, SEND SAMPLES TO THE NEAREST MINILAB FOR TESTING AND REPORT TO THE NATIONAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

Very well summarized. Kindly proceed and **compile quality medicines assurance guidelines for our facility**. After that, we will train all the health staff in our institution on the same. I am impressed that both of you are concerned about assuring quality of medicines in this hospital. That is very commendable.

Colleagues, I am very happy that we have **developed an action plan**. Let us meet on **quarterly basis to monitor the progress**. Now it is time to take action!



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