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“Updates on Substandard and Falsified (SF) and unregistered medical products”

WSR

Two special operations were conducted during the week of 9th to 13th March, 2026 and 20th to 24th April 2026. The initial operation focused exclusively on veterinary medicines, while the second expanded to cover both human and veterinary products.

The veterinary-focused operation spanned 17 regions across eight TMDA zones: Eastern Zone (Dar es Salaam and Tanga), Central Zone (Dodoma and Morogoro), Eastern Lake Zone (Mwanza, Mara and Simiyu), Lake Zone West (Shinyanga and Geita), Northern Zone (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara), Southern Highland Zone (Mbeya and Njombe), Southern Zone (Ruvuma), Western Zone (Katavi and Tabora).

During these inspections, several falsified, substandard, and unregistered medicines were identified and confiscated. The falsified veterinary products seized included: Alben Blue, Homidium Chloride 250mg BP, Ethidium Bromide, Samorin Trypamidium, Hi-Tet 120, Veridum 1g (Isometamidium Chloride hydrochloride), Ethidium Bromide, Levimox, Bromidium-Homidium Bromide and Levafas Diamond 500mL.

Furthermore, different brands of unregistered veterinary medicines worth TZS 35,633,389.28 were also seized (Photo 1).



Photo 1: Falsified Hi-tet 120 injection 100mL. Examples of unregistered medicines identified and confiscated during a special operation.

All premises found in possession of falsified products were reported to the nearest police station for further investigation. Culprits will be arraigned in court upon the conclusion of police inquiries. Similarly, facilities found with unregistered medicines were fined in accordance with the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Act, Cap. 219. All confiscated, falsified, substandard, and unregistered products will be disposed of at the owners' expense.

In a targeted operation within the Dar es Salaam Region, TMDA seized one (1) falsified medicine, four (4) types of substandard medicines, and two (2) types of substandard medical devices. Additionally, the raid uncovered 381 distinct types of unregistered medicinal products, including injectables, tablets, creams, sprays, and syrups, alongside 112 distinct types of unregistered medical devices.

The seized falsified product was identified as Deep Heat Spray, which claimed to be manufactured by Colep Laupheim GmbH & Co. KG, Germany, on June 22, 2025, with an expiry date of June 21, 2029. This specific falsified product lacked a batch number and was distinguished by a characteristic red nozzle.



Photo 2: Falsified Deep Heat Spray

Substandard medicines seized during the operation included Budecort Inhaler (Budesonide 100 mcg/dose, Batch No. 5GB1889, manufactured by Cipla Ltd, India, in August 2025 with an expiry of July 2027), Oxytocin Injection, and Dettol Disinfectant.

The Dettol solution was deemed substandard due to the presence of visible black particles, while the Oxytocin injection was found stored under unfavourable conditions. Furthermore, the Budecort inhaler is a known substandard, and the manufacturer had already issued a recall, stating the batch did not meet required specifications.



Photo 3: Substandard Budecort Inhaler and Dettol Antiseptic Disinfectant

Table 1: List of the common unregistered Medicines Seized in Dar es Salaam during operation

Product Name	Dosage Form	Quantity	Manufacturer (Claimed)	Batch Details
Celestasafe tablets	Betamethasone 0.25mg + Dexamchlorpheniramine 2mg	2,090 tables	Mabix Healthcare LLP(India)	AET25213
Vega-100 tablets	Sildenafil Citrate 100mg Tablets	39,951 tablets	Signature Limited	VR-905M8
Balcon tablets	Baclofen BP 10mg	556 tablets	Mfg by: Unicure Remedies Pvt Ltd, F/25, BIDC Estate, Gorwa, Baroda 390016 For: Metro Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Nairobi, Kenya	E21525003
Femiclean Kit Tablets	Combipack of Mifepristone 1 tablet of 200mg IP and Misoprostol 4 Tablets of 200mcg IP	119 kits	Mancare Laboratories Pvt Limited, India (Marketed by Alto Healthcare Pvt Limited.	Master Batch No.MHT25145
Celabet tablets	Betamethasone 0.25mg + Dexamchlorpheniramine 2mg	30 tablets	HOF Pharmaceutical Limited, India	677

Note: These medicines were imported into the country through unofficial port of entries.



Photo 4: Unregistered Celabet, Celestasafe and vega-100 tablets

Photo 5: Unregistered Balcon (Baclofenac BP) 10mg tablets and Femiclean Kit

Other products that were identified and confiscated consignments of unregistered or unnotified medical devices and diagnostics included a range of in vitro diagnostics and medical devices, as detailed in Table 2 and Photo 6 - 12 below.

Table 2: List of unregistered medical devices and diagnostics seized at the operation

SN	Brand Name	Common Name	Manufacturer Name	Batch No/Serial No.	Date Of Manufacture	Date Of Expiry	Quantity
1.	Quipshot Auto Disable Syringe	Autodisable Syringe	Anhui Tiankang Medical Technology China	20211221	21/12/2021	20/12/2026	100 pieces
2.	Levender Nitrile (Powder Free Examination Gloves)	Examination Gloves	Kimberly- Clark USA	SM31172	01/06/2025	01/05/2028	500 pairs
3.	Accurate (One Step Dipsticks Test - H. Pylori)	H. Pylori Rapid Test Kit	Not Indicated	20251210	Not indicated	09/12/2028	117 pieces
4.	Jxb-178 Infrared Thermometer	Thermometer	Not Indicated	C102000992907	Not indicated	Not indicated	35 pieces
5.	Surgical Sutures	Surgical Sutures	Huaian Angel Medical Instruments Co., Ltd	21941514	01/02/2021	01/01/2026	12 pieces
6.	Full Automatic Electronic Blood Pressure Machine	Blood Pressure Machine	ShenZhen-Zheng Kang Technology Co., Ltd	Not indicated	Not indicated	Not indicated	3 pieces
7.	Dia Spot (Rapid Diagnostic Test)	HCG Pregnancy Test	Not Indicated	20241204	12/10/2024	12/09/2026	150 pieces
8.	H. Pylori Ag Antigen Test strips	H. Pylori Ag Antigen Test strips	Yangzhou Super Union, China	230705	01/08/2023	01/07/2026	50 pieces
9.	I.V Cannula	I.V Cannula	Matu International Pvt Ltd, India	2308094	01/08/2023	01/07/2028	9300 pieces
10.	Colloidal Gold	H.pyroli antigen test kit	Anhu Deepblue Medical Technology Co ltd	20241018	24/10/2024	23/10/2026	75 pieces
11.	Mamma Perfect (Rapid One Step Urinary Pregnancy Test)	Urine Pregnancy Test	Not Indicated	MIF20250617	Not indicated	01/06/2030	20 pieces
12.	Syphilis Ab Rapid Test (Syphilis Rapid Test)	Syphilis Rapid Test	Healgen Scientific LLC, USA	S2601173	Not indicated	2028/01	4 pieces
13.	HAV IGG/IGM (Hepatitis A Virus Rapid Test)	Hepatitis A Rapid Test	Healgen Scientific LLC, USA	S2501152	Not indicated	2027/01	2 pieces
14.	Hepatitis C Virus (Hepatitis C Rapid Test)	Hepatitis C Rapid Test	Healgen Scientific LLC, USA	S2501153	Not indicated	2027/01	4 pieces
15.	H. Pylori Ab Rapid Test	H.pyroli antigen test kit	Healgen Scientific LLC, USA	S2501149	Not indicated	2027/01	4 pieces
16.	Malaria P.F/P. V AG Rapid Test	Malaria Rapid Test	Healgen Scientific LLC, USA	S2501156	Not indicated	2027/01	2 pieces
17.	Paramount (Lung Exerciser Spirometer)	Lung Spirometer	Paramount Surgimed Ltd, India	PSL/LE/0125	01/01/2025	Not indicated	4 pieces
18.	Pediatric Three Lumen CVC	Central Venous Catheter	Arrow International Llc NC27560	NC27560	13/08/2024	30/11/2028	11 pieces

19	Central Venous Catheter Set	Central Venous Catheter	Global Medikit Limited	25B0574	2025/02	2030/01	3 pieces
20	HIV 1/2 3.0 Bioline (HIV Rapid Test)	HIV Rapid Test	Abbott Diagnostics - Korea Inc 65, Borahagat -Korea	03ADJ036B	01/03/2025	31/03/2027	8 strips
21	Kamillsosan (Baby Thermometer)	Thermometer	Goldshield Pharmaceutical	10822	Not indicated	Not indicated	1 piece
22	Moods Condoms	Male Condoms	Hill Lifecare Ltd	BTXF45008	01/12/2024	01/11/2029	10 pieces
23	Mama Delivery Kit	Delivery Kit	B & J Company Ltd	4	01/01/2026	01/01/2029	30 packs
24	Durex Originals (Male Condoms)	Male Condoms	Reckitt Benckiser Healthcare (UK) Limited	1002286212	Not indicated	01/03/2030	12 pieces
25	Okamoto Condom	Male Condoms	OKAMOTO Industries Inc., Bangkok	NIL	Not indicated	Not indicated	265 pieces
26	Durex Romantic	Male Condoms	Reckitt Benckiser Healthcare (UK) Limited	Not indicated	Not indicated	01/07/2029	252 pieces
27	Durex-Feel Thin (Male Condoms)	Male Condoms	Reckitt Benckiser Healthcare (UK) Limited	1002389669		01/05/2030	24 pieces
28	Durex - Intense (Male Condoms)	Male Condoms	Reckitt Benckiser Healthcare (UK) Limited	1002280940	Not indicated	01/03/2030	24 pieces
29	Durex Real Feel (Male Condoms)	Male Condoms	Reckitt Benckiser Healthcare (UK) Limited	1002296680	Not indicated	01/04/2030	24 pieces
30	Clinical Thermometers	Thermometer	Wuxi Medical Instruments	190110	01/01/2019	Not indicated	9 pieces
31	Cross Foley Balloon Catheter (Catheter (16 Fr/Ch))	Balloon Catheter	Not Indicated	FB/25 03	25/03/2026	30/03/2026	1632 pieces
32	Foley Ballon Catheter (Silicon Coated- Latex Foley CATHETER)	Balloon Catheter	Anji Speno Industrial Co.Ltd.	22090304	20/09/2022	01/09/2027	30 pieces
33	On-Site Rapid Test (Hepatitis B Rapid Tests For Invitro Diagnostic Use Only)	Hepatitis B Rapid Test	CTL- Biotech,Inc	F0906V3D01D	01/09/2024	01/09/2026	53 pieces
34	Polyglactin 3/0	Surgical Sutures	Shanghai Channelmed Import & Export, China	2306096	01/07/2023	01/06/2026	12 pieces
35	Shengbang Urine Bag Collection Bag	Urine Collection Bag	Haimen Shengbang Laboratory Equipment Co., Ltd	Not indicated	Not indicated	Not indicated	2 pieces
36	Polyglatin 910	Surgical Sutures	Shanxian Yongtai Suture Materials Co. Ltd, China	250320	01/03/2025	01/03/2028	4 pieces

37	Hemocure Hb201	Hemocue HB 201 Micro-cuevette	Hemocue AB, Sweden	2407623	01/07/2023	01/07/2026	100 pieces
38	Arm Style Electronic Blood Pressure Monitor	Electronic Blood Pressure Monitor	Not Indicated	TK-B102008894002	Not indicated	Not indicated	1 piece
39	Meriscreen	Malaria PF HRP-11 AG Test	Pradeep Laminators, India	MIW 0225008	02/03/2025	02/02/2027	7 pieces



Photo 6: Neema Delivery Pack



Photo 7: Mama Delivery Pack



Photo 8: On-Site Rapid Test (Hepatitis B Rapid Test)



Photo 9: Arm Style Electronic Blood Pressure Monitor



Photo 10: Cross Foley Balloon Catheter (Catheter (16 Fr/Ch)



Photo 11: Durex Male Condoms (Extra Thin Bubblegum, Real Feel, Extra Thin, Feel Thin, Originals)



Photo 12: Full Automatic Electronic Blood Pressure Machine. Medical confiscated during the operation

Because these products are neither registered nor notified with the TMDA, their safety, quality, and performance remain unverified. Their circulation in the market poses a significant, often invisible risk to public health. The danger is particularly acute with diagnostics: unlike ineffective medicines, where persistent symptoms may signal treatment failure, a defective diagnostic device can provide a false sense of "scientific" confirmation. This can lead to the dangerous reality of untreated diseases spread-

ing unchecked under the guise of a clean bill of health.

The Authority continues to warn the public against purchasing medical products that do not appear in the official register. If you encounter any suspicious or unregistered products, they should be reported immediately to the nearest TMDA office or via the toll-free number 0800110084.

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