

All correspondence should be addressed to the Director General

In reply, please quote

ZAMBIA MEDICINES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: 23rd April, 2025

To: Distributors, Wholesalers, Retailers, Healthcare Professionals, General Public

MEDICAL PRODUCT ALERT NO. 2/2025: FALSIFIED HEALMOXY (AMOXICILLIN) CAPSULES 500MG IDENTIFIED IN THE WHO AFRICAN REGION

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 regulate, and control the manufacture, importation, storage, distribution, supply, sale and use of medicines and allied substances for human and animal use for public health protection.

Based on the above, ZAMRA wishes to alert healthcare professionals, pharmaceutical outlets and members of the public that it has been notified by the World Health Organisation (WHO) of the circulation of four (4) batches of falsified **HEALMOXY Capsules 500mg**. These falsified products were detected in Cameroon and the Central African Republic in March 2025.

Falsified products deliberately misrepresent their identity, composition, and source. The active ingredient in genuine **HEALMOXY** capsules is **amoxicillin**. In this case, these products do not contain any amoxicillin.

How to identify these falsified products

To identify these falsified products:

- Analysis of the samples of the falsified HEALMOXY shows that the products do not contain the expected active ingredient, specifically, amoxicillin.
- At least two (2) of the falsified products display inconsistent formats for manufacture and expiry dates. Dates on these falsified products are displayed as day/month/year in eight digits (e.g., 10/01/2027).

Risk

Genuine **HEALMOXY Capsules 500mg** contains amoxicillin, an antibiotic used to treat a variety of bacterial infections. These falsified products do not contain any active ingredient, meaning they would not be effective in treating the infection, leading to the infection worsening or spreading. It is crucial to detect and remove any falsified product from circulation to prevent harm to patients

Advise to healthcare professionals and the public

ZAMRA wishes to notify healthcare professionals and members of the public that, while this product is not registered in Zambia, the ZAMRA has intensified surveillance of the product on the Zambian market as it may be imported through illegal means.

In the unlikely event that you are in possession of this product, do not use it. If you suffer any adverse drug reaction/event having used this product, you are advised to seek immediate medical advice and report the incident to the National Pharmacovigilance Unit at Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority by phone: +260 211 432 356/+260 //956 521 094 or email address at: npvu@zamra.co.zm or pharmacy@zamra.co.zm.

Should the public need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat.

Makomani Siyanga (Mr) **DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

Annex: Products subject of WHO Medical Product Alert No. 2/2025



