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Information Exchange System

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Falsified batches of Postinor 2 recently discovered in Nigeria

Background

In late June 2013 a batch of falsified Postinor 2 was discovered at Lagos International Airport, Nigeria, containing no active pharmaceutical ingredient.

Postinor 2 is an emergency contraceptive (0.75mg levonorgestrel). The genuine product is manufactured by Gedeon Richter and is a widely used WHO pre-qualified medicine.

Two large boxes containing 150.000 doses of Postinor 2 were discovered at Lagos International Airport by the Nigerian Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC). The first box contained thousands of Blisters containing 2 x tablets of Postinor 2 in each. The second box contained the outer boxes and patient information leaflets.

WHO were informed on the 3rd July 2013 and subsequently contacted Gedeon Richter. Samples were sent by WHO to a Forensic laboratory for further analysis, where it was established that the tablets contained no active pharmaceutical ingredient (levonorgestrel).

Suspect medical product

The details of the falsified batch of Postinor 2 is as follows.

Batch number: T13073C Expiry Date: 03.2017 Manufacturing Date: 03.2012

The packaging is in English and bears a falsified stamp of the Nigerian Agency for Food and Drug Administration, NAFDAC.

The batch number is a genuine Gedeon Richter Batch number, but the expiry date and date of manufacture are falsified.

Gedeon Richter have informed WHO that falsified batches of Postinor 2 have previously been found in Africa:

Ghana – April 2011 Batch Number T54365E Kenya – June 2011 Batch Number T99128L Angola – November 2012 Batch Number T12104B

Advice

Increased vigilance throughout the supply chain is strongly advised for these batches. Postinor 2 should only be obtained from trusted, reliable and established legal sources.

If you have any questions or further information concerning this batch, or any is found or reported in your country, please contact rapidalert@who.int