

DR. STEPHEN K. OPUNI

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Dear Healthcare Professional,

REVIEW OF THE SAFETY OF METAMIZOLE SODIUM

The Food and Drugs Board (FDB) as part of its mandate has completed the review of the current safety information on metamizole sodium regarding its association with agranulocytosis and other blood disorders.

Based on the information available the FDB has since classified all oral dosage forms of metamizole and metamizole containing products as prescription only medicine (POM).

Metamizole sodium [a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)] is available in Ghana as a single ingredient tablet or in combination with other ingredients (e.g. B vitamins) or as injectable preparations for intramuscular administration.

The FDB has also recommended that metamizole sodium is prescribed only if other analgesics are contraindicated. Patients to whom metamizole sodium has been prescribed should be monitored for agranulocytosis and other blood disorders.

Further enquiries, complaints and reports of adverse reaction relating to Metamizole sodium or any other medicinal product should be reported to the Food and Drugs Board through the contacts below.

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Food & Drugs Board
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Yours faithfully,

DR. STEPHEN K. OPUNI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE