

FDA AND POLICE ARREST SOME MEDICINE PEDDLERS

The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) on the 30th of March, 2017, embarked on Post Market Surveillance (PMS) activities at the Anyaa and Kwame Nkrumah Circle to deal with the peddling of medicines in fulfilment of its mandate of ensuring public health and safety.

The exercise which was done with the assistance of the Ghana Police Service, led to the arrests of some of the peddlers and seizure of some medicines.

Medicines are not to be peddled or sold anywhere apart from approved premises such as pharmacies, over the counter medicine sellers, hospitals, clinics, maternity homes and other approved health facilities.

Some of the dangers in patronising peddled medicines are that, the peddlers are untrained to sell medicines and can therefore sell wrong medicines, which may lead to health and safety concerns. The consumer also cannot ascertain the genuineness of the products being sold, as to whether the medicines are counterfeits, falsified or substandard which poses health risk to the consumer.

Additionally, the consumer cannot be assured of how the medicines were stored, which could compromise their quality, efficacy and safety; and in case there is any problem with the medication, it would be difficult to trace its source.

The general public is therefore, as a matter of urgency advised to desist from peddling medicines or selling medicines at unapproved places. Consumers should patronise medicines sold at licensed premises.