

## **CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE FDA EDUCATES THE PUBLIC ON TRAMADOL ABUSE**

As part of its mandate to protect public health and safety, the Central Regional office of the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA), in collaboration with the Narcotic Control Board (NACOB), the Ghana Police Service, the Pharmacy Council, the National Youth Authority (NYA), the Media and other stakeholders embarked on a number of sensitization exercises within the region to educate the general public on the abuse of Tramadol and its effects.

The sensitization took various forms including audio-visual campaigns.

Elsewhere within the region, market surveillance was conducted on pharmacies and Over The Counter Medicines shops (OTCM) and a number of unapproved tramadol tablets were seized.

The Media in the region collaborated by providing free air time for the FDA to educate the general public on the dangers associated with the abuse of Tramadol.

The Regional Officer of the FDA in the Central Region, Mr. John Odai – Tetteh also took advantage of these Public Education workshops in the region to sensitize the youth on Tramadol abuse and its effects and advised them to desist from the dangerous practice which can have serious effects on their health.

The Regional Office intends to take the sensitization to the basic and second cycle schools in the Region. He also said the exercise would continue indefinitely.