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LABORATORY INVESTIGATION – LIVING BITTERS CAPSULES

The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) through its monitoring came across a video circulating on social media purporting that Living Bitters Capsules, a herbal medicinal product from Capital O2 Limited has been adulterated with some non-edible and potentially harmful substances. As a result, the FDA's Market Surveillance Team carried out an investigation to ascertain the veracity of the claims in the said video.

The team among others, sampled two (2) different batches (batch numbers 251120 and 261120) of the product from the open market and two (2) other batches, (batch number 201120 and 150221) produced in the years 2020 and 2021 from the manufacturing site of Capital O2 for quality analysis atthe FDA's ISO17025(2017) accredited laboratory.

Results from the laboratory established that each capsule contains varied compositions of Aloe capensis, Hydrastis canadensis among others as per the label. Further differential analysis ruled out the presence of coal tar or other harmful products. According to these analyses, the product completely dissolves in media that mimics digestive fluids.

The FDA therefore wants to assure the public that, the product is safe for consumption and has not been adulterated. To this end, the Authority wishes to advise consumers of FDA regulated products to always look out for proper product labelling which must include product batch numbers, manufacturing and/or expiry dates.

The Authority want to assure the general public that it will always uphold the health and safety of Ghanaians as mandated by the Public Health Act, 2012, Act 851.

All concerns and enquires can be directed to the FDA on the following contacts:

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