DRUG NATIONAL AUTHORITY

Safe Drugs Save Lives

9th May 2018

503/INS/NDA-05/2018

CIRCULAR NO. 02

To all Private Health Care Providers

LICENSING OF PHARMACIES IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CENTERS

The National Drug Authority is the government agency mandated to ensure the availability of efficacious and cost effective drugs to the entire population of Uganda at all times, as a means of providing satisfactory health care and safe guarding the appropriate use of drugs.

In accordance with the NDA Act Cap 206 sections 14, The Licensing regulations (2014) Sections 10-14 and the licensing guidelines for pharmacies 2018, all private health facilities dealing in the supply and dispensing of classified drugs are required to have a licensed pharmacy. This is in line with both The Medical and Dental Practitioners Act Cap 272, sections 31 (3) and Allied Health Professional Act cap 268, sections 34 (2) which stipulate that a medical or dental practitioner or allied Health professionals shall not at any time, except with a **special licence** or permission, engage in stockpiling, retailing or wholesaling of drugs at their health units. In the alternative the health facility should only stock a limited number of emergency medicines as shall be published by NDA and refer their patients to the nearest pharmacy to have their medicines properly dispensed in accordance with the law.

It should be noted that separation of prescribing and dispensing is a fundamental principle aimed at promoting safe and cost-effective delivery of health services.

The purpose of this communication is therefore to make you aware and to request that you start to take immediate steps to comply with this requirement.

For any clarification please contact the nearest NDA office.

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OUR MISSION
Promoting and protecting public health through the effective regulation of human and animal medicines and healthcare products

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