

NATIONAL



AUTHORITY

112/NDA/DPS/02/2026

Safe Drugs Save Lives

3rd March 2026

CIRCULAR NO. 001/DPS/2026

All Pharmacies and Drug Shops

RE: UNAUTHORISED SALE OF PUBLIC FAMILY PLANNING COMMODITIES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The National Drug Authority (NDA) is established by the National Drug Policy and Authority Act, Cap. 198 to ensure the availability, at all times, of essential, efficacious and cost-effective medicines to the entire population of Uganda.

The Ministry of Health and NDA have noted with deep concern the increasing sale of public family planning medicines in the private pharmacies and drug shops. In particular, our surveillance efforts have determined that the self-injectable contraceptive (DMPA-SC/Sayana Press), implants (Implanon NXT and Jadelle) and Copper intrauterine Devices (IUDs) intended for free distribution have been sold in private entities without traceable documentation.

The sale of these products in private entities not only undermines accountability and stewardship of critical public resources, but also threatens the accessibility of these vital products by the most vulnerable people in our communities.

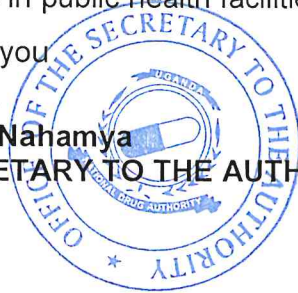
Please note that under section 296 (2) of the Penal code Act, a person who is found in the possession of government medicines without a lawful excuse commits a crime which is punishable by law.

This communication therefore serves as a warning to the public, pharmacies and drug shops to desist from purchasing and selling all family planning medicines/product that are intended to be freely accessed by the Government of Uganda in public health facilities.

The NDA calls upon the local leaders and the general public to be vigilant and report anyone involved in the illegal trade of medicines that are meant to be issued free of charge in public health facilities.

Thank you


David Nahamya
SECRETARY TO THE AUTHORITY



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OUR MISSION

To protect and promote human and animal health through the effective regulation of drugs and healthcare products.

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