

Medical Product Alert N°9/2019

Falsified Augmentin found in Uganda and Kenya

This Medical Product Alert relates to confirmed falsified Augmentin (Amoxicillin trihydrate – Potassium clavulanate) found in Uganda and Kenya. It should be noted that this is the second WHO Medical Product Alert issued on falsified Augmentin in the African region. The first WHO Medical Product Alert N°2/2018 was issued on 2 March 2018.

Genuine amoxicillin + clavulanic acid is used to treat a range of bacterial infections and is listed on the WHO Essential Medicines List as an access group antibiotic.

WHO was recently informed by the Uganda National Drug Authority that falsified Augmentin was found at patient level in Uganda having been discovered through routine post marketing surveillance on the quality of medical products in the market. Samples were sent for quality assurance laboratory testing and revealed none of the expected active ingredients. The Kenya Pharmacy and Poisons Board confirmed that the same batch of falsified Augmentin had previously been found at patient level in Kenya.

Product details are listed in Table 1 below and contained in the Uganda National Drug Authority News Release.

Table 1: Details of the falsified product Augmentin (Amoxicillin trihydrate – Potassium clavulanate), subject of WHO medical product alert N°9/2019

Product Name	Augmentin (Amoxicillin trihydrate – Potassium clavulanate)
Stated Manufacturer	SmithKline Beecham Limited
Batch Number	786627
Manufacturing Date	Aug 2016
Expiry Date	Aug 2019
Declared Active Ingredients	500 mg amoxicillin as amoxicillin trihydrate Ph.Eur. 125 mg clavulanic acid as potassium clavulanate Ph.Eur.

It should be noted that:

- The stated manufacturer has confirmed they did not manufacture this falsified version.
- Quality assurance laboratory analysis did not identify any of the expected active ingredients.
- At this stage, no adverse reactions have been reported to WHO.
- There are labelling and packaging inconsistencies.

Photographs and advice to the public are available on the following pages.

