MEDIA RELEASE

SAHPRA is investigating Tembisa Hospital procurement of health products

Embargo: Immediate release

Pretoria, 4 November 2022 – The South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) takes note of the alleged procurement of hospital consumables and medical devices in breach of the Medicines and Related Substances Act (Act 101 of 1965, as amended).

SAHPRA is currently investigating the matter. The Acting CEO of Tembisa hospital is co-operating with SAHPRA officials.

SAHPRA is also working with the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) as part of this investigation process. Industry and healthcare professionals are urged to comply with the Medicines and Related Substances Act when procuring health products. It must be stressed that procurement of these products must be in compliance with the requisite SAHPRA regulations.

“SAHPRA holds public safety as an important cornerstone as part of its mandate. Any transgression in terms of unethical conduct and compromising public safety will be taken seriously and will be fully investigated. SAHPRA works alongside law enforcement agencies to ensure that any perpetrators face the consequences of their actions,” indicates SAHPRA CEO, Dr Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela.

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About SAHPRA:

SAHPRA is tasked with regulating (monitoring, evaluating, investigating, inspecting and registering) all health products. This includes clinical trials, complementary medicines, medical devices and in-vitro diagnostics (IVDs). Furthermore, SAHPRA has the added responsibility of overseeing radiation control in South Africa. SAHPRA's mandate is outlined in the Medicines and Related Substances Act (Act No 101 of 1965 as amended) as well as the Hazardous Substances Act (Act No 15 of 1973).

SAHPRA has three pillars to ensure that medicines, medical devices and IVDs meet the requisite standards to protect the health and well-being of all who reside in South Africa:

- Safety
- Efficacy
- Quality

It is these three pillars that define the ethos of SAHPRA.