



SAHPRA warns the public about GLP-1 products sold through social media platforms

Embargo: Immediate release

Pretoria, 11 November 2025 – The South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) cautions members of the public against purchasing or using GLP-1 (glucagon-like peptide-1) products that are being promoted and sold on various social media platforms. These products are being promoted to assist with weight loss.

SAHPRA has become aware of companies and individuals illegally marketing GLP-1 products online and falsely claiming to be affiliated with or authorised by SAHPRA and some of South Africa's major retail pharmacies. The Authority wishes to clarify that these claims are untrue.

SAHPRA, through its investigation, has discovered that the sellers of these products are not based in South Africa. The products are being shipped from China via post offices, not from a warehouse in Johannesburg or Cape Town, as stated in the advertisements. The shipped products are not identical to the advertised products. SAHPRA has not approved any oral GLP-1 solution for consumption.

A picture of these products, displaying SAHPRA's logo and claiming to be approved by SAHPRA, can be seen below.

and depression risks, while lowering self-esteem and life satisfaction.

Comprehensive Solution: Break Free from Obesity Struggles

Jumpstart Your Fat Loss in Just 7 Days!
Gentle, Plant-Based Formula — No Harsh Side Effects!

JUST FOR YOU
DISCOUNT
80% OFF

SAHPRA
South African Health Products Regulatory Authority

GLP-1 SIX
Health Solution Oral Liquid

Addressing Different Health Issues

How does GLP-1 Six in-

R 360.00 ZAR

R 800.00 ZAR

SAVE 55%

1 box ✓

R 360.00 ZAR • Add to c

SAHPRA urges the public to exercise caution when they are buying medicines online, from unknown websites or social media pages, as these medicines may contain dangerous/harmful ingredients that might not be disclosed to the patients by the seller. Patients should only buy prescribed medicines from licensed and reputable pharmacies. A list of medicines registered in South Africa can be found on the SAHPRA website.

<https://medapps.sahpra.org.za/>

SAHPRA further warns that the unauthorised selling, distribution, or advertising of medicines not registered with SAHPRA is a contravention of the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 1965 (Act 101 of 1965), as amended. The Authority shall take all the necessary regulatory and legal action against any individual or organisation found engaging in such practices.

Members of the public are urged to report any suspicious medicine sales or false claims of SAHPRA approval. You can report through these whistleblower platforms, SAHPRA's 24-hour hotline (0800 204 307) or via our web reporting facility: <https://bit.ly/3nrku5t>

"Safeguarding the well-being of the South African public remains a primary concern for the regulatory authority. SAHPRA is monitoring the supply chain as well as the online platforms

for unregistered, substandard, and falsified medicines containing or claiming to contain GLP-1 Substances,” indicated SAHPRA CEO, Dr Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela.

ENDS

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Notes to Editors:

SAHPRA will post this media release on its website. Navigate to the News section on the website.

Should you wish to request an interview, please send your request to

media@sahpra.org.za and yuveng@sahpra.org.za

Updates on vaccine registration can be accessed here:

Vaccines - News and updates (sahpra.org.za) - <https://www.sahpra.org.za/news-and-updates/vaccines-news-and-updates/>

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, 101 of 1965, as amended, as well as the Hazardous Substances Act, 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.