



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe and Zimbabwe Republic Police in a Joint Operation**

**Embargo: Immediate Release**

**Harare, 28 February 2024:** Today, the Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe (MCAZ), in collaboration with the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) Drugs and Narcotics Division, conducted a successful blitz raid in the Gazebo area of Caledonia, Harare. The operation was at targeted unlicensed shops suspected of unauthorised dealing in medicines and other pharmaceutical products.

During the raid, six unlicensed shops were inspected, leading to the discovery of unregistered medicines, expired drugs, and even registered medicines being sold unlawfully. All the shops were manned by unlicensed individuals. As a result of our joint efforts, six suspects were apprehended, including one supplier of these pharmaceutical products.

Resultantly, all the discovered medicines were confiscated by the police and the suspects are now in the hands of the police and assisting with investigations.

The MCAZ and the ZRP remain committed to ensuring the safety and integrity of pharmaceutical products available to the public. Such collaborative actions underscore our dedication to upholding regulatory standards and safeguarding public health.

We urge the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious pharmaceutical activities to the authorities. Together, we can combat the distribution of unregistered and expired medicines, promoting a safer environment for all Zimbabweans.

**Issued by:**

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**About MCAZ:**

Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe (MCAZ) is a statutory body established by an act of Parliament, The Medicines and Allied Substances Control Act (MASCA) [Chapter 15:03]. MCAZ is a successor of the Drugs Control Council (DCC) and the Zimbabwe Regional Drug Control Laboratory (ZRDCL). DCC was established by an Act of Parliament in 1969: Drugs and Allied Substances Control Act [Chapter 15:03] following which ZRDCL became operational in 1989.

**MCAZ** is responsible for protecting public and animal health by ensuring that accessible medicines and allied substances and medical devices are safe, effective and of good quality through enforcement of adherence to standards by manufacturers and distributors.

The mandate of MCAZ is to protect public health ensuring that medicines and medical devices on the market are safe, effective, and of good quality.

**Notes to Editors:**

MCAZ will post this media release on our website. Navigate to the Publications section on the website.

Should you request an interview for television, please send your request to [mcaz@mcaz.co.zw](mailto:mcaz@mcaz.co.zw) and copy [dkaiyo@mcaz.co.zw](mailto:dkaiyo@mcaz.co.zw) . Include your discussion points in your request.

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