



**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**20<sup>th</sup> April 2013**

**Pharmacy and Poisons Board to launch digital tool for reporting adverse drug reactions and poor quality medicinal products**

Healthcare workers and the general public will soon be able to report suspected poor quality medicinal products and adverse drug reactions using mobile phones and computers.

The system was developed after numerous requests and feedback from healthcare workers and the general public for a need to increase efficiency in reporting suspected drug reactions and poor quality medicine.

An adverse drug reaction is a response to a drug which is noxious and unintended, and which occurs at doses normally used or tested in man for the prophylaxis, diagnosis, or therapy of disease, or for the modification of physiological function.

Previously, reports were submitted through paper based forms which were cumbersome, limited in access and often had errors. The new digital system is expected to reduce the cost of sending these reports as well as increase the reliability of the received reports.

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board invites the media for the official launch and demonstration on the digital reporting tool

**WHEN :** 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013

**WHO:** **Ms. Mary Ngari**, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation

**Dr. Bitange Ndemo**, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Information and Communications

**Dr. Kipkerich Koskei**, Chief Pharmacist and Registrar, Pharmacy and Poisons Board

**Time:** 8.00am – 12noon

**WHERE :** Pharmacy and Poisons Board offices, Lenana road, next to National Irrigation Board

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) together with the assistance of the USAID Kenya funded Health Commodities and Services Management (HCSM) Program embarked on the project to develop the system after several requests from healthcare workers and the general population on how to increase efficiency in reporting suspected adverse drug reactions and poor quality medicines.

*The Division of Medicines Information and Pharmacovigilance was set up in the late 2004 at the Pharmacy and Poisons Board with a vision to develop, implement and continuously upgrade an appropriate system for detecting, reporting and monitoring adverse drug reactions (ADRs) and other relevant medicine related problems in Kenya. The division strives to ensure the safety and efficacy of pharmaceutical products in Kenya. The department also carries out routine post market surveillance on all medicines in Kenya which helps ensuring that the quality of these medicines also remains as required.*

*Health Commodities and Services Management program is a national level USAID funded program with a five year implementation period ( April 1,2011 – March31,2016).The program is anchored on USAID Kenya's objective of strengthening Health systems for sustainable delivery of quality services and has three outcome areas – strengthened Ministry of Health Commodity management, strengthened pharmaceutical services and strengthened laboratory services*

**For more information and RSVP please contact**

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**Pharmacy and Poisons Board**

