



health

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NOTICE: DIFFERENCE IN COLOUR OF WARFARIN 5MG TABLETS

Circular no. 1 of March 2023

Warfarin 5mg oral preparation is an anticoagulant indicated for the prophylactic as well as acute treatment of Venous thrombo-embolism (VTE).

1. Equity Pharmaceuticals (Pty) Ltd supplied Warfarin 5mg tablet 1 800's tablets on a Section 21 from February to April 2022. This Section 21 supply was prior to Warfarin 5mg tablets being awarded on contract. These tablets are white in colour.
2. Cipla Medpro SA (Pty) Ltd was awarded Warfarin 5mg tablet 100 tablets on HP09-2021SD/01 on 28 February 2022. Supply commenced in April 2022, however only a small volume was supplied over a limited period. The registered Cila Warfarin 5mg 100 tablets are pink in colour.
3. Section 21 stock of Warfarin 5mg tablet 28 tablets were obtained by Cipla Medpro SA (Pty) Ltd from Crescent Pharma in the United Kingdom and supplied for the period August to November 2022. Crescent Pharma Warfarin 5mg 28 tablets are pink in colour.
4. In October 2022, Strides Pharma SA (Pty) Ltd registered Warfarin 5mg 100 tablets with SAHPRA and as a result, Cipla Medpro bought from Strides Pharma to ensure continues supply of Warfarin 5mg 100 tablets. Cipla has been supplying Strides Warfarin tablets since December 2022. The registered Strides Warfarin 5mg 100 tablets are pink in colour.

It has been brought to the attention of The National Department of Health that the Warfarin 5mg tablet, pack size of 1 800's, Section 21 stock supplied by Equity Pharma, trade name WARF-5, is still in circulation in some provinces. The WARF-5 tablet is identified as a **white coloured tablet** and not a pink coloured tablet as expected.

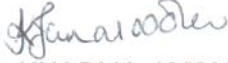
To ensure patient safety, Provinces and Healthcare Facilities are urged to counsel patients on the differences in colour of Warfarin 5mg tablets. This will create patient awareness regarding the difference in colour of the same product and mitigate the risk of confusing the patient. The

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goal is to ensure that the patient does not ingest a double dosage of Warfarin. Please see attached the annexure with more information regarding the four different Warfarin tablets that may currently be available at facility level.

Provincial Departments of Health and Healthcare Facilities are requested to distribute and communicate this information. Kindly share with all the healthcare professionals and relevant stakeholders.

Yours sincerely,



MS. KHADIJA JAMALOODIEN

CHIEF DIRECTOR: SECTOR WIDE PROCUREMENT

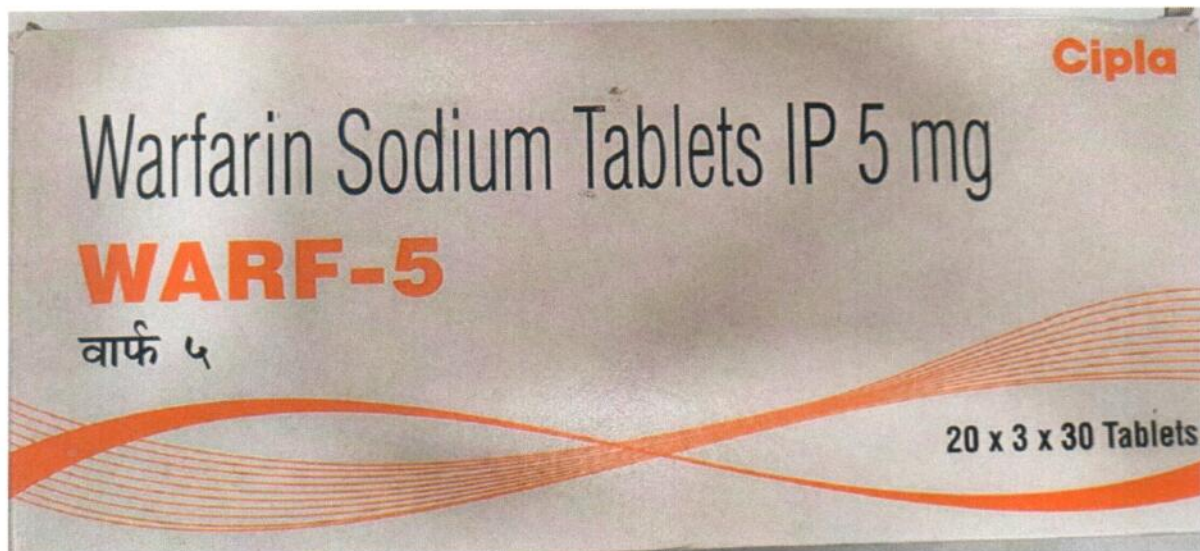
DATE: 24/3/2023

Warfarin 5mg identification annexure:

1. Warfarin 5mg tablet; 1 800 tablets – Section 21 stock imported by Equity Pharmaceuticals from Cipla India

Trade name: **WARF-5**

Tablet colour: Scored White Tablet



2. Warfarin 5mg tablet; 100 tablets – Registered product from Cipla Medpro SA (Pty) Ltd

Trade name: *Cipla Warfarin 5mg*

Tablet colour: Scored Pink Tablet

Tablet identification: Light pink coloured, circular, flat, bevelled tablet with a breakline on the one side. "W" and "5" engraved on breakline side and plain on the other side of the tablet.



3. Warfarin 5mg tablet; 28 Tablets – Section 21 stock imported by Cipla Medpro from Crescent Pharma United Kingdom

Trade name: *Crescent Warfarin 5mg*

Tablet colour: Scored Pink Tablet

Tablet identification: Flat bevelled edged, pink tablets engraved with the company logo on one side and with a breakline and A325 on the other side.



4. Warfarin 5mg tablet; 100 tablets – Registered product from Strides Pharma SA (Pty) Ltd

Trade name: *Segavin 5mg*

Tablet colour: Scored Pink Tablet

Tablet identification: Pink coloured mottled, round, flat, bevel-edged uncoated tablets debossed as “S” “576” divided by breakline and plain on the other side.

