

FDA ORDERS THE RECALL OF FRANKO HERBAL MIXTURE

Accra: October 19 2026 - The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) has ordered **Franko Herbal Centre** to recall its Franko Herbal Mixture from the market within fourteen (14) days. In addition, the manufacturing factory in the Ashanti Region has been closed down. The FDA will conduct a safe disposal of the recalled products, and has warned the company that it risks further regulatory sanctions, including criminal prosecution, if it fails to abide by the directives.

This regulatory action follows laboratory analysis conducted on **Franko Herbal Mixture** manufactured by the **Franko Herbal Centre** at Jacobu in the Ashanti Region. The analysis established that **Franko Herbal Mixture**, which, was registered to contain herbal plants, namely, Carica papaya, Alstonei boonei and Tetrapleura tetraptera, has been adulterated with the underlisted pharmaceutical products and the respective indications.

- **Diazepam** is a benzodiazepine and prescription-only medicine for treating anxiety disorders, acute alcohol withdrawal, muscle spasms, and certain types of seizures.

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- **Paracetamol** is an analgesic and antipyretic Over-the-Counter medicine for the temporary relief of mild-to-moderate pain and fever.

Adulteration of herbal medicinal products is an offence under Section 111 of the Public Health Act, 2012 (Act 851), which prohibits a person from the sale of adulterated herbal medicinal product. Similarly, it is an offense to manufacture, label, package, sell or advertise any herbal medicinal product in a manner that is false, misleading, or deceptive as regards its character, nature, value additives, quality, substance and composition. Franko Herbal Mixture flouts all these requirements and more. It is registered with the Authority as a herbal medicinal product and must not contain any other drug substance.

The presence of Diazepam and Paracetamol in herbal medicinal product poses serious health and safety risks to the public. Diazepam can interact with other medicines which may increase the risk of severe sedation, respiratory depression, coma, and death. In addition, long-term use or

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abuse of diazepam can interfere with the functions of the central nervous system, causing symptoms such as confusion, forgetfulness, dizziness, fatigue, nightmares or hallucinations, impaired judgment and seizures.

On the other hand, an overdose of paracetamol can lead to severe liver damage and acute liver failure, which can be fatal if not treated quickly. The public is therefore strongly advised to refrain from purchasing and consuming **Franko Herbal Mixture**.

The Authority further advises the public, retailers and distributors to comply strictly with this directive and report persons offering **Franko Herbal Mixture** for sale to the nearest FDA offices to ensure the complete removal of the product from trade.

Signed
Chief Executive Officer
Food and Drugs Authority

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