



National Medicines Regulatory Authority

Ministry of Health & Indigenous Medical Services

COVID-19

Beware of Non-Approved Medicines, Vaccines
and Borderline products

Public Awareness Campaign

28 May 2020



Introduction



COVID-19 has impacted all facets of our lives over the last few months and is projected to have a significant impact on our country in the foreseeable future. You may also be aware of persons who are directly affected by this disease and the toll it takes on them and their loved ones.



The NMRA has noted that certain enterprises and persons are marketing unproven ‘cures’ and ‘remedies’ for COVID-19 by preying on existing fears in the minds of the public.

In response to this the NMRA is embarking on an awareness campaign to protect public health by providing accurate information on:

- Medicinal products, vaccines, or borderline products that may be developed to prevent/ treat COVID-19.
- How to verify whether a medicine, vaccine, or borderline product that is being marketed is approved by the National Medicines Regulatory Authority for management of COVID-19
- How the public can report suspicious medicines, vaccines, or borderline products that are promoted by unscrupulous organizations and individuals.

If you feel you are infected or have been exposed to a person infected with COVID-19, please reach out to trained medical personnel by following instructions provided by Health Authorities in Sri Lanka.



Please check our website (<https://nmra.gov.lk/>) for announcements regarding any approved medicinal products used to combat COVID-19 in Sri Lanka.



Is there an approved medication for COVID-19?

- To date, there is **NO medicine** available to prevent or treat COVID-19.
- Please check our **website or announcements** for up to date information on medicines to treat COVID-19.



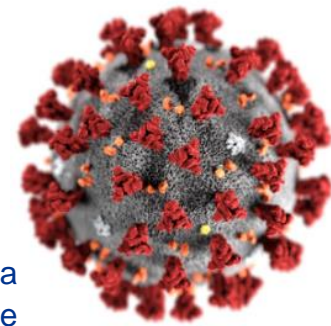
Is there an approved vaccine for COVID-19?

- To date there is **NO vaccine** against COVID-19.
- But there is hope. Governments, the WHO, academic centres of excellence, and pharmaceutical companies around the world are working hard to develop a vaccine against COVID-19. Some of these candidate vaccines are being tested on humans through clinical trials.
- As member of public, you should be aware that any 'vaccine' that may be currently marketed is fake and can lead to death or life-threatening illnesses.



Are there approved borderline products claiming to boost immunity against COVID-19?

- To date there is **No borderline product** developed to treat or prevent COVID-19.
- We are aware that certain enterprises and persons are making false claims regarding such products that are claimed to be useful to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please consult a doctor registered with the Sri Lanka Medical Council before taking any borderline products or those claiming to boost immunity.
- Please check our website to verify whether any such product being marketed has been approved by the NMRA for use against COVID-19.



Closing Remarks



Consuming medicinal products that have not been approved to treat COVID-19 poses a significant threat to your health or the health of your loved ones. If you believe you have used any product based on false claims to treat or prevent COVID-19, or if you suffer adverse reactions caused by such falsified products, please seek immediate medical attention and report the incident to the NMRA.



All medicines, vaccines, and borderline products **MUST** receive authorization by the NMRA before entering the market in Sri Lanka.



Anyone with access to the internet can check whether a medicine, vaccine or borderline product available in the market is registered with the NMRA from this [link](#)

Your help in monitoring and reporting **suspicious** medicines, vaccines and borderline products is extremely important to protect public health.

Please pass on the public health messages provided in this document to your network of friends and contacts. We look forward to your support to counter the menace of unregistered medicines in Sri Lanka.

Reach Out To Us:

If you are aware of any misleading advertisements circulating on any media source, including social media platforms (Facebook, WhatsApp, etc.), please report those advertisements to the NMRA,



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