



STEPS FOR DETECTING COUNTERFEIT DRUGS



INSPECT PACKAGING: Look for inconsistencies in packaging, such as misspellings, fonts, or incorrect logos. Genuine drugs typically have well designed, high-quality packaging.



VERIFY LABELS: Ensure that the drug's label, including the name, manufacturer, and expiration dates, match the official information from the manufacturer.



INSPECT VISUAL APPEARANCE: Compare the drug's appearance to a known genuine product. Compare size, shape, and color. Counterfeit drugs often will have noticeable differences.



AUTHENTICATION: Some drugs may come with security features like holograms, QR codes, or barcodes that could be used to verify the validity of the drug.



CONDUCT CHEMICAL TESTING: Laboratory tests can identify discrepancies in the composition of the drug compared to a genuine product.



PURCHASE FROM RELIABLE SOURCES: Always buy medications from licensed and trusted distributors. Avoid buying from unverified online sources. Be wary of deeply discounted products as this could be a ruse to sell counterfeit products.



CONSULT A HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL: If you have doubts about the validity of a drug, consult with a pharmacist, healthcare provider, or contact the manufacturer.



Board of
Pharmacy



If you believe that you were sold or dispensed counterfeit prescription medications, please take the following steps:

- Do not use or distribute the suspected medications.
- Segregate the drugs from any active drug stock.
- Do not dispose of the drugs, as they may be needed for further testing or verification.
- Contact a pharmacist or healthcare professional.

Additionally, contact the Ohio Board of Pharmacy at 614-466-4143 or file a complaint on our online portal by scanning this QR code:



Additional Resources:

FDA - Counterfeit Medicine:

www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/fdacounterfeit

FDA - Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA):

www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/DSCSA