



# Counterfeiting

Counterfeit medicine is fake medicine. It contains the wrong or no active ingredient. They could also have the right active ingredient but at the wrong concentration. Such medicines are illegal and harmful to your health.

Fidson has put measures in place to help you distinguish between original and counterfeit medicines, including:

1. Mobile Authenticated Device or Service – MAS: On February 2, 2010 NAFDAC and Sproxil technology launched the NAFDAC MAS to put the power of product verification right in the hands of the consumer. Fidson has adopted the use of Mobile Authenticated Service on our anti-infective medicines to differentiate quality authentic anti-infective (antimalarial, antibiotic, antifungal, anti-protozoal) medicines and curb the use of counterfeit drugs in adherence with NAFDAC guidelines.

## HOW TO USE THE MOBILE AUTHENTICATED SERVICE

- When you purchase our brand of antimalarial or antibiotic medicine, look for the scratch pad or the Sproxil label
- Scratch the Sproxil label to reveal a unique 12 or 13-digit number
- Then text the verification number to 1393
- You should receive a response within seconds indicating that the product is genuine or not genuine
- If no response is received then the product is fake

Please note that the text message is free of charge and the above instruction is on the label.

2. Patented manufacturing process: This process was adopted for Ciprotab soflet. Soflet gel cap is a unique, patented manufacturing process that enrobes tablets with a gelatin film, resulting in a one or two-toned colour dosage form that can be easily printed on, offering distinctive product differentiation. Patent technology is difficult to mimic, providing easy recognition of tampering. It is the first Ciprofloxacin Soflet in the world and available in Nigeria through Fidson Healthcare Plc.



You can also see page for articles on Counterfeit medicines in Nigeria: [Counterfeit Drugs: Nigeria not out of the woods](#)

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND FULL MEANING**

1. MAS- Mobile Authentication Service
2. MAD- Mobile Authentication Device
3. PMS- Post Market Surveillance
4. NAFDAC- National Agency For Food and Drug Administration and Control

## **DEFINITIONS**

1. Abuse- Substance abuse refers to the harmful or hazardous use of drugs which could lead to dependence.
2. Adverse effects/reaction- It is an undesired harmful effect resulting from a medication.
3. Allergy- Allergies, also known as allergic diseases, are a number of conditions caused by hypersensitivity of the immune system to something in the environment that usually causes little or no problem in most people.
4. Dependence- Is an adaptive state that develops from repeated drug administration, and which results in withdrawal upon cessation of drug use
5. Disability- Is an impairment that may be cognitive, developmental, intellectual, mental, physical, and sensory or a combination of all them.
6. Drug inserts- is a document provided along with a prescription or over-the-counter medication to provide additional information about that drug.
7. Drug interactions- A drug interaction is a situation in which a substance (usually another drug) affects the activity of a drug when both are administered together. It could either increase the drug's effect or decrease the drug's effect or a new effect can be produced that neither produces on its own.
8. Expiry date-It is the date after which a drug might not be suitable for use
9. Hereditary- It means when a medical condition is passed on from parents to offspring



10. Hypersensitivity- There are undesirable reactions produced by the normal immune system, including allergies and autoimmunity.
11. Medical condition- It is any illness, injury or disease
12. Mitigate- To lessen or make something less severe
13. Pharmacodynamics- It is study of what the drug does to the body. The biochemical and physiologic effects of drugs.
14. Pharmacokinetics-It describes what the body does to a drug, refers to the movement of drug into, through, and out of the body.
15. Prescription- an instruction written by a medical practitioner that authorizes a patient to be issued with a medicine or treatment.
16. Self-diagnosis- Is the process of identifying, medical conditions in oneself
17. Side-effects- There are effects expected after taking a drug. They can be sometimes beneficial but necessarily gentle.
18. Therapeutics- The branch of medicine concerned with the treatment of disease and the action of remedial agents.
19. Unpalatable – inedible substance