

Circular No. (29) 2021

Date: October 31, 2021

To: All Invoicing Companies (MAHs, Manufacturers, Exporting Distributors), and All Agents/Distributors (Importers), Dispensers (Hospitals, Pharmacies, Clinics) in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Subject: Information Regarding the Grandfathering of Medicines Due to Current Global Conditions

As per Resolution No. 41 of the year 2017, and in accordance with the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) Medicines Barcoding and Serialization Guideline; Kingdom of Bahrain; May 2019 Version 1.2, The Bahrain National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) has contracted with MVC W.L.L to establish and manage the "NHRA-MVC" Traceability Hub track and trace system for the Kingdom of Bahrain as per Circular (46) 2020, 11th November 2020. In assessing the global supply chain challenges that all countries are experiencing due to the on-going COVID pandemic, NHRA recognizes that there may be issues with the timing of shipments arriving in the Kingdom of Bahrain after 1st October, 2021 serialization deadline, that are not serialized or cannot be reported in the NHRA-MVC Traceability Hub. This Circular is meant to address these supply chain challenges.

For all Invoicing Companies (MAHs, Manufacturers, Exporting Distributors), that have been operating in good-faith to meet the 1st October, 2021 deadline:

- If your shipments arrive after 1st October, 2021 but on or before 31st December, 2021; you may report the shipment information as you have done in the past and NHRA will exempt these shipments for reporting the serialization information.
- This is a 3-month grace period through 31st December, 2021 to help address these supply chain challenges.

For all Agents/Distributors (Importers), Dispensers (Hospitals, Pharmacies, Clinics) in the Kingdom of Bahrain

We recognize that you have an inventory of medicines currently in your stock that you acquired prior to 1st October, 2021 that will not have serialization information.

- Medicines you received in your inventory prior to 1st October, 2021 will not show up in the NHRA-MVC Traceability Hub if you scan the serialization information.
- Medicines that you receive after 1st October, 2021 but on or before 31st December, 2021; may not show up when you scan the serialization information, due to the pandemic-related global supply chain challenges mentioned above.

You should make every effort to enter the serial number information into the NHRA-MVC Traceability Hub. As older, on-hand inventory is depleted, the issue will resolve itself.



Dr. Mariam Athbi Al Jalahma
Chief Executive Officer