

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS SUPPLEMENT

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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2004 No. 24.

**The National Drug Authority (Prescription and Supply of Certain Narcotic Analgesic Drugs) Regulations, 2004.**

*(Made under section 65 of the National Drug Policy and Authority Statute, 1993)*

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred on the Minister responsible for Health by section 65 of the National Drug Policy and Authority Statute, 1993 these Regulations are made this 24th day of July, 2002.

PART I—PRELIMINARY.

**1. Citation**

These Regulations may be cited as the National Drug Authority (Prescription of Certain Narcotic Analgesic Drugs) Regulations, 2004.

**2. Objectives**

The objectives of these Regulations are—

- (a) to promote the correct and adequate use of certain Narcotic Analgesic Drugs in palliative care for the relief of severe pain and control of symptoms;
- (b) to improve access to certain Narcotic Analgesic Drugs for the relief of severe pain and control of symptoms in the provision of palliative care services by making them more easily available at the lower levels of the Health system and by enabling trained Health care workers to prescribe the drugs as recommended by the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the World Health Organisation (WHO);
- (c) to ensure the implementation and maintenance of an effective system of control and handling of certain Narcotic Analgesic Drugs;
- (d) to ensure appropriate prescription and recording of certain Narcotic Analgesic Drugs in order to promote their correct use for legitimate medical purposes; and
- (e) to avoid illicit or inappropriate use of certain Narcotic Analgesic Drugs in conditions or for patients where the use is not therapeutically indicated.

**3. Interpretation**

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, “a Certificate in Specialist Palliative Care” means a certificate issued on satisfactory completion of a training course approved by the Ministry responsible for Health.

PART II—PRESCRIPTION AND SUPPLY OF CERTAIN NARCOTIC ANALGESIC DRUGS.

**4. Authority to prescribe**

Subject to regulations 5, 6 and 7 a Clinical Officer or a Nurse with a certificate in specialist palliative care shall be authorised to prescribe and supply the narcotic analgesic Drugs specified in the Schedule.

**5. Restrictions on prescribing**

A Clinical Officer or a Nurse authorised to prescribe drugs under regulation 4 may only prescribe drugs for the management of pain and as part of the palliative care of patients suffering from severe pain and similar symptoms.

**6. Narcotic Analgesic Drugs to be prescribed**

The narcotic analgesic drugs to be prescribed under regulation 4 shall be only those products and in the form described in the Schedule.

**7. Requirements for prescribing**

The requirements for prescribing narcotic analgesic drugs referred to in regulation 6 shall be those in paragraph 3 of the Ministry of Health Guidelines for Handling of Class A Drugs, March 2001 or any revisions to those guidelines.

SCHEDULE

NARCOTIC ANALGESICS WHICH MAY BE PRESCRIBED AND SUPPLIED BY  
CLINICAL OFFICERS AND NURSES

1. Morphine oral solution 1 mg/1mL (or 5 mg/5mL)
2. Morphine oral solution 50mg/5mL
3. Morphine tablets SR 10 mg
4. Morphine tablets SR 30 mg
5. Morphine tablets SR 60 mg

*Minister of Health.*

BRIG. JIM MUHWEZI,