



HARUNA TAJUDEEN

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Date: 31st December, 2025.

To:

The District Chief Executive (DCE)

Kpandai District Assembly

Cc:

1. The District Director of Health Services, Kpandai.
2. Narcotics Control Commission (NACOC), Kpandai.
3. The District Director, National Health Insurance Authority, Kpandai.
4. The District Director, Ghana Education Service, Kpandai
5. The Chairperson, Ghana Registered Nurses and Midwives Association, Kpandai.
6. The Chairperson, Union of Professional Nurses and Midwives Ghana, Kpandai.
7. The District Police Commander, Kpandai.
8. Social Welfare Officer, Kpandai
9. Chairperson, Drug Stores Association, Kpandai
10. Nana Brisiam Okora Attorsah, KpandaiWura.
11. Clergy (Chief Imam, Pastors), Kpandai.
12. The Chairperson, Traditional Council of Chiefs, Kpandai
13. Private and Public Health Facilities, (ECG, District Hospital, Afidom Clinic, Total health etc)
14. Political Parties, Media Houses, Youth Groups etc

**PETITION FOR INVESTIGATION, REGULATION, AND POSSIBLE
RESTRICTION OF THE USE OF PETHIDINE, MOPHEME, TRAMADOL AND
OTHER FORMS OF OPIODS IN KPANDAI DISTRICT**

I, Haruna Tajudeen, a resident of the Kpandai District, respectfully submit this petition on my own behalf and on behalf of concerned residents of the district, whose signatures are attached in support of this petition.

This petition is submitted in the interest of public health, patient safety, and ethical healthcare delivery within the Kpandai District.

Over a sustained period, there have been repeated reports and observations within the district that **PETHIDINE, MORPHEME AND TRAMADOL** sales and injections are routinely administered to patients who present with general body pains, waist pains, joint pains, and work-related fatigue by some health personnels at some health facilities.

In many instances, these injections are reportedly given as a first response, without adequate explanation to patients, without documented informed consent, and without the exploration of safer alternative pain management options.



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The situation has become increasingly alarming as there are numerous community reports indicating that some patients have developed dependency and addiction to these injections. As a result, affected individuals reportedly demand the drug periodically, placing emotional, financial, and social pressure on their dependants, who are compelled to repeatedly take them to health facilities.

There are further allegations within the community that this practice has, in some cases, extended beyond health facilities, including reports of injections being administered in private homes. Even more disturbing are reports of open sales of such drugs over the counter, and that some individuals have allegedly been trained to administer injections to themselves, particularly among youth engaged in physically demanding work. While these reports require proper investigation, their frequency suggests a serious public health and safety concern.

These concerns raise significant issues under Ghana's legal and professional frameworks, including:

1. The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana, which guarantees the right to life, human dignity, and personal liberty. Practices that expose individuals to avoidable harm, addiction, or unsafe medical procedures threaten these constitutional protections.
2. The Ghana Health Service Patient Charter, which guarantees patients the right to:
 1. Full information about medications and treatments
 2. Informed consent before medical procedures
 3. Safe, quality, and ethical healthcare
3. The Public Health Act, 2012 (Act 851), which seeks to protect the public from unsafe medical practices and regulate the proper use of medicines.
4. The Narcotics Control Commission Act, 2020 (Act 1019), which regulates controlled substances, including opioid medications, to prevent misuse, diversion, and addiction.
5. The Nursing and Midwifery Council of Ghana's Code of Professional Conduct, which requires nurses to act in the best interest of patients, obtain informed consent, avoid harm, and uphold professional accountability.



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Any practices inconsistent with these standards, if established, warrant urgent action and punishments.

The continued reports of this practice have led to:

1. Rising cases of suspected drug dependency and addiction
2. Increased financial and emotional burden on families
3. Health risks among farmers, traders, women, the elderly, and youth
4. Declining public trust in healthcare services
5. A broader threat to community safety due to misuse of injectable drugs

In view of the above, I respectfully and firmly request that the appropriate authorities:

1. Conduct a comprehensive, independent investigation into the sales, administration, prescription, and community-level use of **opioid drugs** (pethidine, morpheme and tramadol) within the Kpandai District.
2. Impose a temporary restriction or ban on the routine use of pethidine and morpheme for general pain complaints, pending the outcome of investigations.
3. **Ensure that pethidine and the related drugs are administered only under strict clinical indication, and with clear patient and/or family consent, properly explained and documented.**
4. Strengthen monitoring, supervision, and accountability mechanisms within health facilities especially the private once.
5. Collaborate with the Ghana Health Service, Nursing and Midwifery Council, and law enforcement agencies to address any professional misconduct or unlawful practices identified.
6. Collaborate with the IGP Special Operation Taskforce in Tamale deployed to target drug peddling, abuse, and related crimes in the Tamale Metropolis and its surrounding areas to assist in conducting sweeps and coordinated raids on drug trafficking networks and criminal hideouts.
7. Implement community education programmes on patient rights, safe pain management, and the dangers of opioid abuse.



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8. Provide support and referral pathways (rehabilitation) for individuals already affected by addiction within the district.

This petition is submitted in good faith and in the collective interest of protecting lives, families, and the integrity of healthcare delivery in the Kpandai District. It is not intended to target any individual, but to prompt urgent systemic action to prevent further harm.

I trust in your leadership and commitment to safeguarding public health and ensuring that healthcare practices within the district align with legal, professional, and ethical standards.

Thank you for your attention and anticipated action.

Yours faithfully,

HARUNA TAJUDEEN

(Lead Petitioner)

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