

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA DRUGS CONTROL ADMINISTRATION



Press Note

Drugs Control Administration, Telangana seized <u>overpriced</u> anti-cancer medicine Dacazee 500 Injection (Dacarbazine Injection IP 500 mg) in Karimnagar – The MRP indicated was very high compared to the Ceiling Price fixed for the product by the Central Government.

Dacazee 500 Injection (Dacarbazine Injection IP 500 mg) is used to treat cancer of the lymph system (Hodgkin's disease) and malignant melanoma (a type of skin cancer).

The firm was found to be charging an excess of Rs. 668.95/-, which is more than double the Ceiling Price fixed by the Central Government.

The details are as follows:

Drugs Control Administration officials seized 'Dacazee 500 Injection' (Dacarbazine Injection IP 500 mg), during the raids carried out on 11th and 12th July, 2024, at a medical shop located in Karimnagar.

The product Dacarbazine Injection 500 mg sold under brand name 'Dacazee 500 Injection' is under price control as per Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 and the price of product shall be in accordance with the 'Ceiling Price' fixed by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), Government of India. The product 'Dacazee 500 Injection' (Dacarbazine Injection IP 500 mg) of Batch No: 323-294, Mfg. Dt: 04/2023, Exp. Dt: 03/2026, Manufactured by: Zee Laboratories Ltd., Paonta Sahib, 173025, Himachal Pradesh, **bears** <u>MRP as Rs.</u> <u>1,250/- for one vial (injection)</u>, on the label of the product which is a violation of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013.

The <u>Ceiling price fixed by the Central Government</u> including Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the product "Dacarbazine Injection 500 mg" is **Rs. 518.79/- for one injection (Ceiling Price).**

Hence Maximum Retail Price (MRP) i.e. including GST 12 % should not be more than **Rs. 581/- for one injection** (MRP=Ceiling Price+GST)

The firm overpriced the product. Firm charged **excess of Rs. 668.95/- for one injection** which is a violation of the **Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013,** which is **more than double** the Ceiling Price fixed by the Central Government.

Photograph of the Anti-Cancer Product Seized for Price Violation

Dacarbazine	Dacazee 500	Dacazee 500
Injection I.P. 500 mg	Composition: Each vial contains: Dacarbazine I.P. 500mg Excipients & Diluents q.s. Dosage: As directed by the Oncologist. Storage: Store protected from light & moisture,	Mtg. Lic. No. : S-MNB/10/67 & S-MB/10/68 Batch No. : 323-294 Mtg. Date : 04/2023 Exp. Date : 03/2025 Exp. Date : 1250.00 M.R.P. Rs. : (Incl. of all taxes)
Dacazee 500	at a temperature between 2°C and 8°C Keep medicine out of reach of children.	ET ZEE
500mg Lyophilized Powder For Intravenous Use Only Signle Use Vial OncoZest	Reconstitution: Reconstitute to 50ml by adding Sterile Water for Injections I.P. to get a concentration of 10mg/mL fo Dacarbazine. Note: Reconstituted solution should be used immediately after preparation. Caution: The injection should not be used if it contains visible particulate matter after reconstitution. Warning: Cytotoxic agent: To be sold by retail on the prescription of an Oncologist //Cancer/Hospital/Institution only.	Manufactured in India by : ZEE LABORATORIES LTD. Behind 47, Industrial Area, Paonta Sahib-173025 OncoZeest the zest for Itje continues. A Diotsion of ZEE LABORATORIES

Sri. M. Srinivasulu, Assistant Director, Karimnagar and Sri. P. Karthik Bharadwaj, Drugs Inspector, Karimnagar are among the officers who carried out the raid.

Further investigation shall be carried out and action shall be taken as per the law against all the offenders.

The prices of Essential Medicines shall be in accordance with the Ceiling Prices fixed by the Central Government. Overpricing of essential medicines is a violation under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 and stringent action shall be taken as per the law against violators.

The public may report any complaints regarding illegal activities concerning medicines through the Drugs Control Administration, Telangana Toll-Free Number 1800-599-6969, which is operational from 10:30 am to 5:00 pm on all working days.

Date: 12-07-2024

V.B. KAMALASAN REDDY, IPS

DIRECTOR GENERAL

Photograph


