

Press release

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Man sentenced for illegal Internet sale and supply of Kamagra

A man from Milton Keynes was today sentenced to 100 hours community service at Aylesbury Crown Court for the illegal sale and supply of unlicensed medicines via the Internet. Keith Morgan (47) of 41 Wyness Avenue, Little Brickhill, Milton Keynes had previously pleaded guilty to the sale and supply of Kamagra tablets on 8 July 2005 at Milton Keynes Magistrates Court. He was also ordered to pay £1,200 costs.

Mr Morgan was under investigation by enforcement officers from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) in July 2004.

Danny Lee-Frost, Head of Medicines Enforcement at the MHRA said, "The successful outcome of this case clearly demonstrates that selling unlicensed medicines via the Internet is a punishable offence. People should be vigilant when buying medicines over the Internet as criminals are operating some websites or using them to sell unlicensed medicines. These medicines cannot be guaranteed to be safe, could be counterfeit or at worse harm someone because of an adverse reaction to the medicine."

Upon sentencing, His Honour Judge Risius said, "The public may not be aware that dealing in these medicines is unlawful. This case sends the message loud and clear that it is unlawful and those dealing in the products run the risk of being prosecuted."

The investigation began after a package addressed to Mr Morgan was intercepted through the post. It contained 2,680 Kamagra tablets.

Enforcement officers from the MHRA visited Mr Morgan's business address in Little Brickhill on 5 July 2004. It was there that Mr Morgan went into the loft, under the supervision of the enforcement officers, and came down with a carrier bag containing Kamagra tablets.

Mr Morgan rented a locker from a company in Bletchley near Milton Keynes where packages containing the tablets were delivered. On 5 July 2004, enforcement officers visited this company and seized boxes of tablets from Mr Morgan's locker. Mr Morgan was interviewed under caution at Milton Keynes Police Station on 14 July 2004 where he

admitted selling the drugs on eBay. He admitted that he had a contact in India, through a website called 'Ali Baba', who sent the tablets to him. Mr Morgan said that he was selling the tablets on eBay for £25 for four tablets. He was summoned to appear at Milton Keynes Magistrates Court on 20 May 2005 to answer five counts relating to the sale and supply of Kamagra and other similar products.

Ends

Notes to Editor:

1. Kamagra is a pill used to treat erectile dysfunction in men and is unlicensed in the UK.
2. The maximum penalty for this type of offence is two years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine.
3. The MHRA is the government agency which is responsible for ensuring that medicines and medical devices work and are acceptably safe. We keep watch over medicines and devices, and we take any necessary action to protect the public promptly if there is a problem.