

# Lira drug theft suspects convicted

**LIRA**

By Hudson Apunyo

The Lira Grade One Magistrate, Simon Peter Odoo, on Monday convicted two people who pleaded guilty to stealing of government drugs and remanded them to Erute Government Prison, until August 17, pending sentencing.

Nine others who pleaded "not guilty" were also remanded to the same prison, until the hearing of their case and bail application.

Ben Onedo, 38, a laboratory

technician at Aduku Health Centre IV, pleaded guilty to theft and unlawful possession of Government drugs, while Julius Etuku, 58, a cleaner at Amai Hospital in Amolatar district, pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of government drugs and receiving stolen property.

Detectives from the State House Health Monitoring Unit arrested 10 suspects last week and recovered drugs worth over sh50m stolen from government hospitals. The suspects are variously charged with unlawful possession of government

drugs, compounding felony, neglecting to prevent a felony, being in possession of stolen property and theft.

Henry Baluku, the deputy district internal security officer of Lira and Bernard Adoko, the LC3 chairman of Amach sub-county, are among the suspects. The duo together with James Okello, 37, are charged with the offence of compounding a felony and neglecting to prevent a felony. Other suspects include Moses Ojuka, Gloria Amuge, Eric Okullo, Agnes Amucu and her husband James Lango.