



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Welcome Message
- E&T Activities
- Pharmacy Practice activities and more

WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the management and staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria, I bring you warm felicitations and greetings. I felicitate with our Muslim Colleagues as they mark the Eid-ul-Fitr celebration while I equally felicitate with our Christian colleagues as they continue the Lenten Fasting which will culminate in the Easter Celebrations in a few days' time. I pray that both holy celebrations will usher our dear profession and country into an era of unprecedented abundance and prosperity. As we begin the second quarter of this year today, I would want to enjoin all colleagues to continually work towards building an industry that we can all be proud of.

As it is our practice, the senior management of the Council will be embarking on our quarterly strategic review sessions to evaluate the successes recorded vis-a-vis our set objectives with a view to taking key learnings from our wins and losses and taking necessary steps to adjust where necessary so that ultimately, the profession and by extension the average Nigerian would be the better served.



Pharm Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed FPSN FPCPharm
Registrar/CEO
Pharmacy Council of Nigeria

Month under review



EDUCATION & TRAINING

Induction

The PCN congratulates the three hundred and twenty-eight (328) newly inducted pharmacy graduands who formally joined our noble profession in March. These inductees were from:

- Delta State University, Abraka, Delta State (62);
- University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State (90);
- Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra State (115);
- Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu State (63).

Furthermore, a supplementary induction was done for eight (8) graduands from Niger Delta University, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State. The PCN welcomes these new pharmacists and wishes them a fulfilling career.

PEP

The First Cycle 2025 Pre-registration Examination for Pharmacist (PEP) was successfully conducted on 22 March 2025.

Upcoming FPGOP

Reminder: The First Cycle 2025 Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Orientation Programme (FPGOP) is scheduled to take place from 27 April to 6 June 2025, at two (2) PCN designated centres, namely: Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Gombe State University (North) and Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State (South). Prospective participants are hereby advised to visit the PCN website or the nearest PCN office for further enquiries. Please note that the deadline for the submission of all application forms and relevant documents is Friday, 11 April 2025.



Month under review



PHARMACY PRACTICE

Participation in National Alcohol Policy Review Meeting

The PCN actively participated in the second Stakeholders review meeting for the draft of the National Alcohol Policy and its Strategy Implementation Plan. This activity took place at Jemmyland Hotel from 19 – 21 March, 2025.

Content Development and Review of PPMV

CEP Module II

In our ongoing commitment to enhancing pharmaceutical practice at all levels, the Council successfully convened a content development and review meeting for the Continuing Education Programme (CEP), Module II for Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs). This essential activity, held from 25 – 29 March, 2025, at Joscord Hotel in Nasarawa State. This program underscores PCN's dedication to regulating pharmacy education, training and practice in all its aspects and ramifications.



Month under review

PROGRAMS COORDINATING DEPARTMENT

Memorandum of Collaboration with DKT Nigeria

I am pleased to announce that the PCN formalized partnership with DKT Nigeria through the signing of a Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) on 5 March 2025. This collaboration is aimed at strengthening the capacity of Community Pharmacists (CPs) and Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) in the provision of family planning services, as well as to enhance access to quality family planning and reproductive health products.

Participation in Reproductive Health PICM Quarterly Review Meeting

PCN participated in the quarterly review meeting of the Reproductive Health Product Introduction Coordination Mechanism (PICM) organised by the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (FMoH&SW) in collaboration with Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI). The meeting was held on 13 March 2025 at Rockview Royale Hotel in Abuja.



Engagement Meeting with the PSN Foundation

On 27 March 2025, PCN held an engagement meeting with the PSN Foundation to discuss various collaborative projects. The discussion focused on aligning project timelines and milestones, identifying potential challenges, and developing practical solutions.



Engagement Meeting with the PACS Project and MSD for Mothers

Furthering our collaborative efforts, PCN also held an engagement meeting with the Promoting Accreditation for Community Health Services (PACS) Project team and their funder, MSD for Mothers, on 28 March 2025. The discussion focused on the lessons learnt, challenges and recommendations based on the journey so far in the PACS Project.

Month under review

INSPECTION, MONITORING, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Memorandum of Collaboration with GSI Nigeria

In our continued drive to strengthen the pharmaceutical supply chain and ensure patient safety, I am pleased to announce a significant partnership with GSI Nigeria. A Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) was signed on 17 March 2025, at our Head Office in Abuja.

This collaboration will support and enhance the implementation of traceability of medicines within the pharmaceutical supply chain. It aims to improve supply chain visibility, efficiency, patient safety, and compliance with regulatory requirements. This partnership underscores PCN's desire to strengthen deployment of technology to drive regulation and improve pharmacy practice throughout Nigeria.



COURTESY VISITS

We were honoured to receive several important delegations at the PCN Head Office during the month of March:

COURTESY VISIT: AHAPN ABUJA CHAPTER

On 10 March 2025, we had a valuable meeting with the Executive Committee of the Association of Hospital and Administrative Pharmacists of Nigeria (AHAPN) Abuja Chapter. Our discussions focused on addressing key issues impacting hospital pharmacy practice, charting the way forward.

COURTESY VISIT: MDCN

The PCN welcomed the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) to the PCN Head Office, Abuja, on 28 March 2025. The delegation was led by Dr. Fatima Kyari, Registrar/CEO, MDCN. This courtesy visit provided an opportunity for strengthening collaboration and partnership between the two agencies as well as exchange of information and enhancing inter-professional relationships and harmony.

APPMED VISIT

On 21 March 2025, we welcomed the Association of Patent and Proprietary Medicine Dealers (APPMED), led by their President, Mr. Stephen Otubo, along with the Executive Committee and numerous members.

During the visit, I reiterated the importance of APPMED and its members conducting their business of selling medicine in strict compliance with the requirements for the registration, licensing, and control of such medicine shops, in accordance with the law and in the best interest of public health.

Mr. Otubo, in his remarks, pledged the full support of APPMED to the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria. He assured PCN that its members are committed to upholding the law and conducting their businesses in strict compliance with regulatory requirements.



PCN AT PHARMA WEST AFRICA

PCN participated at the Pharma West Africa conference 2025 with the theme: Unlocking the healthcare value chain, the journey so far. The Chairman of the Organising committee was Pharm Ahmed I Yakasai FPSN with the keynote delivered by Dr Abdul Mukhtar, National Coordinator, Presidential Initiative on unlocking the healthcare value chain. The Registrar was a special guest at the event while PCN was a major partner of the program

Subsequently, the Registrar then led the PCN delegation to the Lekki Free Trade Zone on the guidance of Bloom Health. The objective was to provide regulatory guidance to the officials of the free trade zone with respect to the establishment of Pharmaceutical concerns within the zone. Further to the above, the Registrar along with his team, had an official tour to the site of the ongoing construction of the coordinated wholesale centre (CWC) by City Pharmaceuticals. The team was conducted round the site by the Chairman, Pharm Sir Nnamdi Obi. At the end of the tour, City Pharmaceuticals signed an undertaking to ensure the relocation of the open drug market in Idumota, Lagos to the CWC in Badia village, Ijora, Lagos



OVERSIGHT VISIT BY HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON HEALTHCARE SERVICES

We were pleased to host the House of Representatives Committee on Healthcare Services for an oversight visit on 26th March 2025. This engagement provided an important opportunity to discuss the Council's activities and our contributions to healthcare in Nigeria. The Committee was quite pleased with the activities of the PCN and assured the Registrar of continued support of the National Assembly



As we enter this new month of April and the second quarter of this year, I pray God answers all our prayers and grants us our hearts desires according to his will for all stakeholders in the Pharmaceutical industry as individuals, corporate organisations, associations and the industry as a whole

SIGNED

**PHARM IBRAHIM BABASHEHU AHMED, FPSN, FPCPHARM, FNAPHARM, FCAI, IION
REGISTRAR/CEO
PHARMACY COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (PCN)**