

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Welcome Message
- E&T Activities
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WELCOME MESSAGE

Happy Workers’ Day!

On behalf of the management and staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria, I warmly welcome you to the month of May and extend heartfelt congratulations to all hardworking professionals on the occasion of Workers’ Day. Your dedication, resilience, and contributions continue to drive progress and excellence in our sector and beyond.



A big kudos to all our staff who consistently make a difference through their commitment and service. As we continue to uphold our commitment to excellence in the regulation and advancement of the pharmaceutical sector, the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN) remains steadfast in its mission to ensure the delivery of quality pharmaceutical care services to all Nigerians. Through our various initiatives, collaborations, and regulatory actions, we strive to strengthen the profession, promote public safety, and support the continued professional development of pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and patent and proprietary medicine vendors.

# Month under review

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

### Induction

In April 2025, the PCN formally inducted seventy-six (76) pharmacy graduands from Bingham University, Karu, Nasarawa State, into the pharmacy profession. In addition, a supplementary induction was conducted for one (1) graduand from the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

We warmly welcome the newly inducted pharmacists and wish them every success in their professional journey.



### FPGOP

The First Cycle 2025 Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Orientation Programme (FPGOP) Eligibility Interview successfully took place from 27-29 April 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). At the end of the eligibility interview, 108 out of the 130 participants passed.





# Month under review

## Interactive Forum/Workshop with Stakeholders in CHTs/SHTs

From 3-4 April 2025, the PCN successfully hosted a two-day Interactive Forum/Workshop on "Advancing the Training and Practice of Pharmacy Technicians in Nigeria: A Regulatory Perspective," held at National Universities Commission and Nigerian National Merit Award House, Abuja, FCT.

The event brought together Provosts, Principals, and Heads of Departments (HODs) from over 100 PCN-approved Pharmacy Technician Training institutions (CHTs/SHTs) nationwide, with the aim of improving the training and professional practice of Pharmacy Technicians in Nigeria.

The forum served as a crucial platform for robust discussions and strategic planning aimed at elevating the standards of pharmacy technician education and addressing challenges associated with the sub-cadre training in Nigeria. Noting the national issues that pertain to the training of pharmacy technicians in Nigeria, key discussion points during the interactive session included the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) midwifed by the Federal Ministry of Education (FMoE) to abolish the training of Pharmaceutical Technologists and streamline Pharmacy Technician training, covering its details and implications; Direct Entry pathways and requirements for further education for graduates of Colleges/Schools of Health Technology; the indexing of students to improve quality assurance in the programme; and the criteria and impact of performance-based assessments for rating schools and determining admission quotas.



# Month under review



## PHARMACY PRACTICE

### PCN Participates in Second Draft Meeting on National Electronic Pharmacy Policy

The PCN took part in the second draft meeting of the National Electronic Pharmacy Policy of the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. The event was held on 28-29 April 2025, at the Grand Bohabs Hotel, Mabushi, Abuja

## Hospital Pharmacy Inspection

In a bid to strengthen regulation of hospital pharmacies nationwide and improve patient service delivery in hospitals, the council undertook hospital pharmacy inspections in three states:

1. Borno State (7 - 11 April 2025)
2. Edo State (7- 11 April 2025)
3. Adamawa State (14-18 April 2025)

Recommendations arising from these inspections have been duly communicated to the management of these hospitals. These inspections are conducted to ensure that these facilities meet up with the minimum standards of hospital pharmacy practice.



**COURTESY VISIT TO THE HON. COMMISSIONER FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ADAMAWA STATE, CHIEF FELIX TENGWAMI, ON 16 APRIL 2025 WITH RESPECT TO THE INSPECTION ACTIVITY.**



## PROGRAMS COORDINATING DEPARTMENT

### Stakeholders Engagement on Lagos State Malaria Pre-Elimination and Digitisation Project

PCN in collaboration with Lagos State Ministry of Health, World Health Organisation (WHO), Maisha Meds, and Society for Family Health (SFH) convened a stakeholders' engagement meeting with Community Pharmacists (CPs) and Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) respectively to introduce the Lagos State Malaria Pre-Elimination and Digitisation Project and sensitise them on their roles and responsibilities in the Project. The meeting was held at Golfview Hotel Ikeja, Lagos State between 10 - 11 April 2025.



### E-Pharmacy: Project Advisory Committee

The Electronic Pharmacy 4 Family Planning (ePharma4FP) Project Advisory Committee held its 3rd Biannual Meeting on 23 April 2025 at Ibeto Hotel, Abuja. The meeting was chaired by the PCN Registrar. Members of the Committee in attendance included the CEO Society for Family Health (SFH), representative of the Gates Foundation, Directors from Lagos State Ministry of Health (LSMOH), representative of ACPN National Chairman, and other stakeholders.

### National Stakeholders' Meeting on the DKT Project

PCN in collaboration with DKT Nigeria engaged national stakeholders on the DKT Project. The project aims to strengthen the delivery of basic healthcare and family planning services by empowering Community Pharmacists (CPs) and Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) across ten states (Sokoto, Kaduna, Kano, Lagos, Borno, Nasarawa, Gombe, Adamawa, Niger, and Kebbi) through comprehensive trainings. The meeting was held at Grand Cubana Hotel, Jabi, FCT on 24 April 2025.



# Month under review

## ENFORCEMENT

Between 1-4 April 2025, the PCN National Enforcement Team carried out a follow-up enforcement and arrest exercise in Gombe State.

Total Number of premises visited: 144

Total Number of Premises sealed: 100

Compliance directives issued: 2

Number of arrests: 7

The individuals arrested were stakeholders who had previously breached the PCN seal following earlier enforcement exercises in the state. They will be prosecuted and charged to court, to serve as a deterrent to others who may envisage breaking the PCN seal in future.

This enforcement exercise reflects PCN's continued commitment to ensuring compliance with pharmaceutical regulations and protecting public health.



## CAPACITY BUILDING: IN-HOUSE TRAINING FOR SOUTH-WEST ZONAL STAFF

As part of efforts to enhance staff knowledge, strengthen internal processes, and promote a values-driven organisational culture, the PCN conducted an in-house training for personnel in the South-West Zone. The programme was held from 14–18 April 2025 at the Dame Oviasu Auditorium, PCN Lagos Zonal Office, Yaba.

The training covered key areas such as Quality Management Systems (QMS) awareness, organisational culture and values, computer appreciation for Executive and Clerical officers, Public Service Rules, and traceability awareness. In addition, a step-down QMS training session was conducted for QMS Lead Implementers to reinforce effective system implementation.





## AHAPN PCN CHAPTER HONOURS THE REGISTRAR

In recognition of his outstanding leadership and support for the pharmacy profession, the newly elected executives of the Association of Hospital and Administrative Pharmacists of Nigeria (AHAPN) - PCN Chapter, presented an award to the Registrar/Chief Executive Officer of the PCN during a courtesy visit on 25 April 2025.

During the visit, the executives also expressed their gratitude for his continued support and reaffirmed his role as the Patron of the Chapter.



## Registrar Addresses PPMVs at Imo State Narcotics Control Workshop

The Registrar visited Owerri in April to participate in a seminar/workshop on Narcotics Control and Prevention of Substance Abuse. The Programme was organised by the office of SA on Narcotics to the Governor, Ministry of Health under the leadership of the Honourable Commissioner, Prof Chukwuemeka Ubaka in partnership with Institute of Public Safety and Prevention of Sociopathic Behaviour

In his address, he provided a historical overview of patent medicine vending in Nigeria, highlighting the role of Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMV) within the national medicine supply and distribution system. He was unequivocal in stating that PPMVs have no legal business with narcotics or other prescription-only medicines (POMs).

The Registrar also reminded participants of the impending closure of some major open drug markets and the transition to consolidated drug distribution centres currently being implemented.

## NDDG Review Meeting

The Registrar participated in a two-day meeting of stakeholders to review the 2nd Edition National Drug Distribution Guidelines (NDDG) organised by the Food and Drug Services Department, Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH), which held from 15-16 April 2025, at Onyx Hotel and Apartments, Abuja.

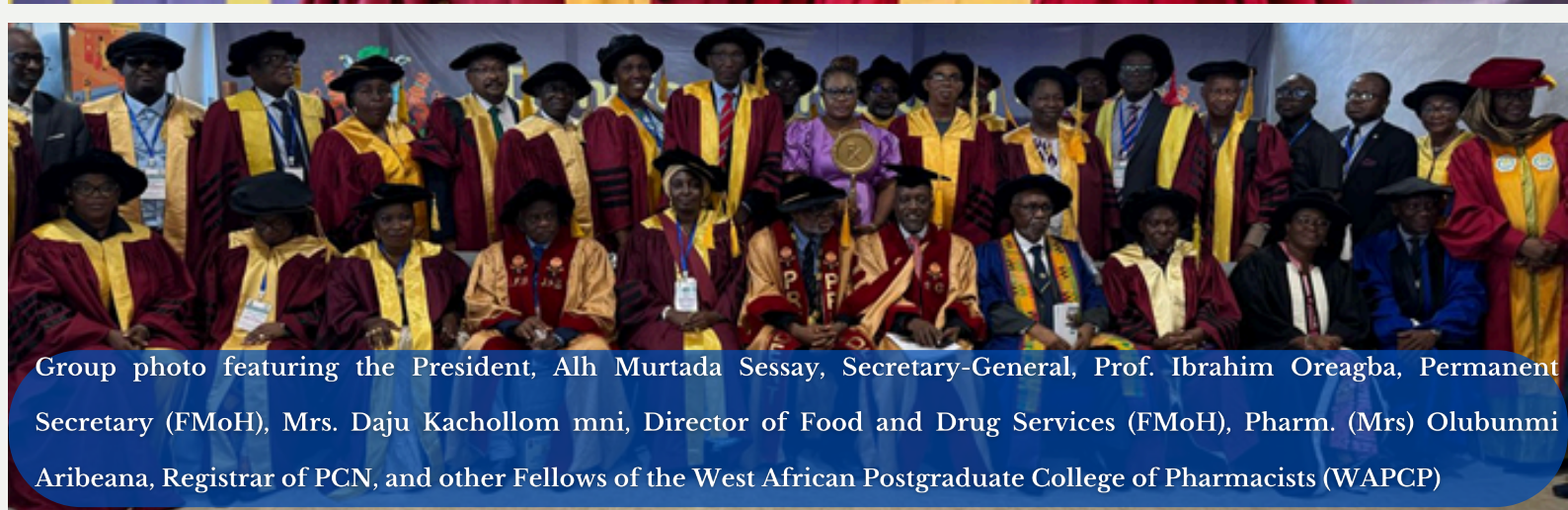




**WAPCP**

The Registrar attended the 37th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Scientific Symposium of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists (WAPCP) at Freetown, Sierra Leone, on the delegation of the Permanent Secretary, FMoH, Mrs. Daju Kachollom mni, and the Director, Food and Drug Services, FMoH, Pharm. (Mrs) Olubunmi Aribeara.

The PCN congratulates its own—Pharm. Molade Osekafore, Pharm. Danladi Dunkrah, and Pharm. Jane Ugwu—on their induction as Fellows of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists (WAPCP) at the recent event. The Council wishes them continued success and greater achievements in their professional journeys.



**As we enter this new month, we once again extend our gratitude to all our partners, stakeholders, and staff for their tireless efforts and dedication to the success of our programs. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the healthcare landscape and drive the future of pharmacy practice in Nigeria.**

**SIGNED**

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