

## FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK



## WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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- Pharmacy Practice activities and more

## WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the management and staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria, I warmly welcome our stakeholders into the month of June, which marks the beginning of the end of the first half of 2025. We trust that your endeavours have yielded positive ripple effects that have contributed to greater changes and impacts across our society.

I am pleased to share significant updates that reflect our commitment to advancing the cause of the Pharmaceutical industry in Nigeria. We thank you for all the support we have received since the beginning of this year. The first 5 months of this year has been quite eventful and our schedule at the registry for the month of June is even busier. Nevertheless, we remain committed to delivering excellent regulatory services to the Nigerian Pharmaceutical Industry even as we count on your unwavering support..



**Pharm Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed FPSN FPCPharm**

**Registrar/CEO**

**Pharmacy Council of Nigeria**

# Month under review



## EDUCATION & TRAINING

In May 2025, the PCN inducted four hundred and seventeen (417) new Pharmacy graduands into the profession from the following Universities

- University of Benin, Edo State;
- Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Awka, Anambra State;
- Olabisi Onabanjo University, Sagamu, Ogun State;
- University of Maiduguri, Borno State.

Additionally, a supplementary induction was conducted for one (1) FPGOP graduand.

The PCN warmly welcomes these new pharmacists and extends best wishes for their successful careers.

## PHARMACY PRACTICE

In line with its mandate to promote and maintain excellence in pharmacy education and training, the PCN held a workshop to review and finalise the development of the Cycle 6 MCPD programme which comprise of Modules XVI, XVII and XVIII.

The workshop which took place between 21 - 24 May 2025 at Abuja had the PSN President in attendance, Chairmen of all the technical arms of the PSN and the MCPD coordinators from the various centres. Preparations are in top gear to launch the new cycle 6.





# Month under review

## PROGRAMMES COORDINATING DEPARTMENT

### Lagos State Malaria Project: Capacity Building and Digitization

The PCN, in collaboration with the Lagos State Ministry of Health, World Health Organization (WHO), Maisha Meds, and Society for Family Health (SFH), conducted a series of capacity-building trainings for Community Pharmacists (CPs) and Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVVs) under the Lagos State Malaria Pre-Elimination and Digitization Project. The training sessions were organised in cohorts and held across various locations in two batches in Lagos from 5-10 May and 26-30 May 2025.

### Product Introduction Coordination Meeting & Market Assessment

PCN participated in the Q2 Product Introduction Coordination Mechanism (PICM) Meeting held on 22 May 2025 at APDC Building Abuja. The meeting was aimed at reviewing and validating findings from the Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn Health (SRMNH) market assessment conducted in FCT, among others.

### Monitoring Community-Level Malaria Care Projects

In an effort to improve access to quality malaria care at the community level, PCN in collaboration with National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP) carried out monitoring and supervisory visits on the Private Sector Pilot Project through CPs and PPMVVs in Delta and Kano States. The activity was held between 19 - 23 May 2025.

### Task Shifting Task Sharing (TSTS) Policy Review

With the support of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria Foundation (PSNF), PCN participated in the second stakeholders' review meeting of the Task Shifting and Task Sharing (TSTS) Policy held in Lagos and Kaduna States. These meetings which took place from 14 - 16 May 2025 in Lagos and 19 – 23 May 2025 in Kaduna were convened to review and adapt the State TSTS Policy for both States.



# Month under review

## ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

The PCN National Enforcement Team conducted a robust enforcement exercise in Akwa Ibom State from 11-17 May 2025.

Total Number of Premises visited: 789 premises

Total Number of Premises sealed: 528 (134 Pharmacies and 394 patent medicine shops)

Total Number of Compliance directives issued: 5

This enforcement exercise revealed certain trends:

- Premises operated without proper registration or valid licences,
- Widespread issue of pharmacists and vendors failing to complete the full online application process for licensure despite making renewal payments.

The enforcement team clarified this critical distinction between paying renewal fees and completing the essential application process. Furthermore, the team discovered the illegal practice of training apprentices in various facilities with some even issuing certificates after collecting substantial fees for multi-year training periods. The team also observed that many Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) were found illegally selling prescription-only medications such as antihypertensives, antidiabetics, antibiotics, and antiulcers, beyond their approved scope.





# Month under review



## LEGAL

The Registrar held a meeting with PCN legal stakeholders which include external solicitors, lawyers from Federal Ministry of Justice (FMoJ), Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH), Prosecutors, Director (Legal Services) Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), etc, on 8th May 2025. The meeting reviewed various legal issues and judgements relating to the PCN.

This strategic stakeholders engagement serves to improve and strengthen the PCN's legal regime in carrying out its regulatory processes with a view to ensuring better and more effective service delivery.

Following findings from the PCN's surveillance activity across 231 housing estates in Abuja, FCT in February 2025, some pharmacists were invited for a meeting at the PCN Head Office, Abuja, on 9th May 2025 to make preliminary findings on the allegations of "register and go" practice, and other unethical conducts. Simultaneously, investigations were conducted into petitions received at the Registry regarding "training and certifying of apprentices, as well as instances of individuals deposing to false facts in affidavits, among others.





## CAPACITY BUILDING

Following the successful in-house training workshop for staff in the South-West Zone, the Registrar extended this initiative to the staff in the South-South and South-East Zones. Held at the PCN South-South Zonal Office in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, from 19 – 23 May 2025, the training covered such areas as organisational culture and values, Public Service Rules, traceability awareness, computerisation and computer appreciation, anti-corruption and transparency sensitisation, and a step-down QMS Lead Implementers training to reinforce effective system implementation.

The Registrar also paid a working visit to the Abuja Zonal Office of PCN at the Federal Secretariat Complex Abuja on Friday, May 30, 2025.



## PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

### Monitoring and Evaluation Assessment

The PCN hosted officials from the National Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning on Friday, 16 May 2025, for a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System Compliance Assessment.

This exercise saw the National M&E team engage with key personnel within the PCN, including the Director of Planning, Research and Statistics, Directors from technical departments, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. The assessment aimed to evaluate the PCN's M&E systems against national standards, identify areas of strength, pinpoint opportunities for improvement, and ensure the Registry is well-equipped to effectively track and report progress on its programs and projects. The findings and recommendations from this assessment will be instrumental in further strengthening the PCN's internal processes and enhancing its contribution to the pharmaceutical sector.





# INSPECTION, MONITORING, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

## QMS - 8th Internal Audit

The PCN Quality Management System (QMS) Team conducted its eight internal audit on 27 May 2025 at the PCN Head Office, Abuja. The audit aimed to monitor departmental and unit adherence to Opportunities for Improvement (OFIs) issued during the last audit, ensure compliance with quality objectives, and evaluate the implementation of departmental/unit workplans.

The overarching objective of this exercise was to assess the effectiveness of PCN's QMS, ensuring its continued suitability, adequacy, and alignment with PCN's strategic direction.



### Meeting with Kaduna CWC Stakeholders

The Registrar had an engagement with key stakeholders from Kaduna State on 6th May 2025 to review the efforts for the establishment of a Coordinated Wholesale Centre (CWC) in the state. The CWC in Kaduna is among the second generation approved by the Federal Ministry of Health.



### Meeting with Imo State CWC Stakeholders

Similarly, the Registrar had a meeting with key stakeholders from Imo State on 13th May 2025, to receive update on the developments of the establishment of a CWC in the State and provide further guidance on its implementation.





# Month under review

## EGISTRAR HONoured FOR EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP IN STAFF WELFARE

The PCN appreciates the recent honour given to our Registrar/CEO, Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed, FPSN, a presentation of two (2) awards recognising his significant contributions to staff welfare across health regulatory bodies. The awards were presented by the Committee of Unions Chairmen of Health Regulatory Bodies in Nigeria (CUCHRBN) and the Medical Health Workers Union of Nigeria (MHWUN) – PCN Branch, during a courtesy visit on Wednesday, 7 May 2025, at the PCN Head Office, Abuja.

CUCHRBN, comprising union leaders from thirteen health regulatory bodies, commended the Registrar's pivotal role in addressing the nearly one-year salary payment delay faced by staff in several health regulatory institutions in 2024. This recognition underscores the PCN's commitment to a workplace culture rooted in welfare, collaboration, and service excellence.



## RFPTN 2ND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The PCN appreciates the leadership and members of the PSN Lagos state branch for offering to host the 2nd Annual National Conference of the Reformed Forum of Pharmacy Technicians in Nigeria (RFPTN) at its secretariat in Ogudu. The conference theme was “Revitalising Pharmacy Technician Profession in Nigeria: Exploring Opportunities for Growth and Development”. This gathering had in attendance the PSN president, the Chairperson of the PCN Governing Council, The Chairman PSN Lagos State, past Chairmen of PSN Lagos State and prominent Pharmacists from the State. Various dignitaries present encouraged the Pharmacy technicians to continue to work in accordance with the code of conduct guiding their practice as well as assurances of continuous support to the association.

A promotional banner for the 2nd Annual National Conference of the Reformed Forum of Pharmacy Technicians in Nigeria (RFPTN). The banner features the RFPTN logo, the conference title, and portraits of key attendees. The theme is "Revitalizing Pharmacy Technician Profession in Nigeria; Exploring Opportunities for Growth and Development". The date is 28th-30th May 2025, and the venue is PSN Lagos State Secretariat, Plot 18, Block A1, Prince Adesoji Ajoje Street, Ogudu, Lagos, Nigeria. Contact details for the bank and the association are also provided.

**REFORMED FORUM OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS IN NIGERIA (RFPTN)**

**2nd Annual NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**THEME: REVITALIZING PHARMACY TECHNICIAN PROFESSION IN NIGERIA; EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

**DATE: 28TH-30TH MAY 2025**

**VENUE: PSN LAGOS STATE SECRETARIAT, PLOT 18, BLOCK A1, PRINCE ADESOJI AJOSE STREET, OGUDU, LAGOS, NIGERIA**

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# 5TH PWDAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Registrar attended the 5th Annual National Conference of the Pharmaceutical Wholesalers and Distributors Association of Nigeria (PWDAN) which was held at The Radison Blu Hotel, Ikeja Lagos on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of May 2025.

The Registrar used the opportunity to share updates on the recent positive developments regarding the efforts of the PCN towards the sanitisation of the chaotic drug distribution system in Nigeria. He expressed optimism that in the not too distant future, we would be able to put this ugly trend behind us permanently.



L-R Pharm Oghenechuko Omaruaye, National Chairman, PWDAN, Pharm Ayuba Tanko Ibrahim, President, PSN, Mrs Njide Ndili, President, Healthcare Federation of Nigeria, Dr. Fidelis Ayebae, Founder, Fidson Healthcare, Pharm Ibrahim Baba Shehu Ahmed, Registrar, PCN, Pharm Dennis Aizobu of Society for Family Health and Pharm Ambrose Eze, National Chairman, ACPN

**The PCN Registry remains dedicated to intensifying its efforts to effectively regulate and sanitise the pharmaceutical landscape, thereby safeguarding public health. We strongly encourage all our stakeholders to support these crucial regulatory activities through informed actions and decisions, contributing in every possible way to the broader goal of a healthier society.**

**SIGNED**

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