

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK



WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the Management and Staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN), I extend our heartfelt greetings to our valued stakeholders as we begin the month of September 2025. At PCN, our focus remains on strengthening the structures that support excellence in pharmaceutical practice and protecting the health of the Nigerian people

In recent weeks, our regulatory and enforcement initiatives have continued to yield meaningful progress, reinforcing our role as guardians of quality, integrity, and professionalism within the sector. As we enter this new month, we look forward to deeper collaboration with all stakeholders, confident that together we can drive sustained growth, innovation, and trust in the pharmacy profession across Nigeria.

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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



Month under review

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Inductions

In August, the PCN inducted one hundred and thirty eight (138) fresh pharmacy graduands into the profession, from

- University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State
- Kaduna State University, Kaduna State

A Supplementary Induction was also conducted for two graduands from

- Gombe State University, Gombe State
- University of Ilorin, Kwara State.

This month's inductions concluded with the successful induction of one hundred and five (105) foreign-trained pharmacists who participated in the first cycle 2025 FPGOP, a ceremony which held on 26 August 2025 at the PCN Head Office, Abuja.

FPGOP Eligibility Interview

The second cycle of the 2025 Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Orientation Programme (FPGOP) Eligibility Interview successfully took place from 17 – 19 August. The interviews were held at two (2) PCN designated centres: Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kaduna State University, Kaduna State (North) and Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Uyo, Uyo, Akwa-Ibom State (South). Of the one hundred and one (101) participants, eight (8) were not successful.



Month under review

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Enforcement Exercise in Niger State

From 18 – 22 August 2025, the PCN National Enforcement Team conducted an enforcement exercise across eleven Local Government Areas in Niger State.

During the operation, a total of 702 premises were visited, including 139 pharmacies and 562 Patent Medicine Shops (PMSs). The exercise resulted in the sealing of 510 premises, which included 72 pharmacies and 437 PMSs, due to various violations. Twenty-four other premises were issued compliance directives, and one arrest was made.

The reasons for the sealing and other enforcement actions included operating without a valid registration with the PCN, Patent Medicine Shops selling medicines not on the Approved Patent Medicine List (APML), Patent Medicine Shops engaging in unauthorized clinical practices, and premises being operated by a third party or underage persons, along with other varying offences.



Month under review

INSPECTION, MONITORING, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Pharmaceutical Inspectors' Workshop

The recent National Pharmaceutical Inspectors' Workshop which held from 11 – 15 August 2025 was a pivotal event aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of pharmaceutical inspectors across Nigeria.

Organised by the PCN, under the distinguished Chairmanship of Dr U.N.O Uwaga FPSN, and Pharm Ahmed Yakasai, FPSN as Keynote Speaker, the workshop's theme was "Inspecting for Excellence: Best Practices in Pharmaceutical Inspection as a Key Driver of Public Health Safety in Nigeria." The event, which included participants from various state pharmaceutical inspectorates and industry stakeholders, focused on equipping inspectors with the latest best practices, regulatory frameworks, and modern tools to improve inspection effectiveness.

The Workshop was declared open by Coordinating Minister of Health, Prof Muhammad Ali Pate, CON who was represented by the Pharm Talatu Yahaya Kasim, Director Pharmaceutical Services, Food and Drug Services Dept. Dignitaries included the Permanent Secretary as represented, the Director, Food and Drug Services, the Chairperson, PCN Governing Council, Pharm (Haj) Wosilat Giwa, FPSN, the immediate past PCN Registrar, Dr. Elijah Mohammed, PSN President, partners which included WHO, SFH(IntegratE), EPHARMA4FP, DKT all of which supported the programme generously. The National Coordinator, PVAC and NAFDAC also graced the occasion. Thirty three states DPSs were in attendance with key members of the PICs(PSN and ACPN Chairmen).

The workshop highlighted the crucial role inspectors play as frontline guardians of the nation's drug supply chain, and it emphasised the need for professionalism, high ethical standards, and a zero-tolerance approach to compromise.

By continuously investing in the professional development of our inspectorate, we are reaffirming our commitment to ensuring quality pharmaceutical service delivery.

Month under review



Pictures from the Pharmaceutical Inspectors' Workshop

PHARMACY PRACTICE

Orientation Programme

The month's activities included an orientation programme for Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVVs) held in Ondo State on 7 August 2025.



Month under review

PCN & NAFDAC JOINTLY RETAIN NIGERIA'S WHO MATURITY LEVEL 3 STATUS

In a major milestone for Nigeria's health sector, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) and PCN have successfully maintained the country's World Health Organisation (WHO) Maturity Level 3 (ML3) status for the regulation of medicines and vaccines.

This achievement, effective from 30 June 2025, follows a rigorous re-benchmarking exercise by the WHO, where our integrated regulatory framework was assessed and reaffirmed as stable and well-functioning. The collaborative efforts of both agencies in this exercise have reinforced public confidence in the safety and quality of pharmaceutical products in Nigeria.

In a joint press conference in Abuja by NAFDAC and PCN on Tuesday, 12 August 2025, both agencies announced the achievement and reinforced its commitment to global best practices and maintaining high standards of regulation.

The PCN remains open to strategic partnerships, ensuring continued excellence in our regulatory oversight and contributing to a healthier nation.



Month under review

PROGRAMMES COORDINATING DEPARTMENT

CPART Implementation Strategic Meeting

From 4 – 5 August 2025, the PCN joined stakeholders at the Community Pharmacy Antiretroviral Therapy (CPART) Implementation Strategic Meeting in Abuja. The meeting served as a platform for stakeholders to review progress in program implementation, share feedback, and identify programmatic gaps and challenges.

Round Table on Postpartum Hemorrhage Prevention

Also, PCN participated in a Round Table Discussion on the Advance Distribution of Misoprostol for Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage (PPH) in Nigeria. The qualitative study brought together representatives from PSN, ACPN, NAFDAC, and NPHCDA, among others. The discussion aimed to generate evidence on the barriers and opportunities for policy direction in Nigeria for the advance distribution of misoprostol for prevention of PPH at births outside facilities. The meeting held in Abuja on 26 August 2025.

National Electronic Pharmacy Platform Discussions

On August 21-22, with support from the E-Pharma4FP project, the PCN hosted a Systems Requirements Gathering meeting in Abuja where requirements for the development of a National Electronic Pharmacy Platform were discussed. Discussions are still ongoing.



Month under review

FEDERAL TASK FORCE INAUGURATION

To combat the growing threat of counterfeit drugs and unwholesome foods, the Honourable Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate, CON, recently inaugurated a Federal Task Force.

Backed by C34LFN 2004, this task force is a multi-sectoral body composed of government agencies, law enforcement, and industry stakeholders. Its core mission is to protect public health, safeguard the integrity of the healthcare system, and restore public trust in the products consumed by Nigerians.

The Task Force, designed to operate at both the federal and zonal levels, includes key organizations such as the Office of the National Security Adviser (NSA), National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), Nigeria Police, Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), and the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN). This initiative aligns with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda, aiming to strengthen governance, improve population health outcomes, and ensure health security for all Nigerians.



PCN CLINCHES HONOUR AT AHAPN CONFERENCE!

Huge congratulations are in order! The PCN emerged as the winner in the Administrative Category at the 26th Annual National Conference of the Association of Hospital and Administrative Pharmacists of Nigeria (AHAPN).

The conference, tagged “EDO 2025,” took place in Benin City, Edo State, from 5 – 7 August 2025. This victory in the Group Dynamics segment is a proud moment for our Council and a direct result of the hard work and commitment of our entire staff. We are incredibly grateful for your efforts in earning this recognition.



That's all for this month's update. We trust you found the information insightful and look forward to your continued collaboration as we work towards a safer and healthier Nigeria. We remain dedicated to upholding the standards of the pharmacy profession and ensuring the well-being of the public. Thank you for your unwavering support.

SIGNED

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REGISTRAR/CEO
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