

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Welcome Message
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- Pharmacy Practice activities and more

WELCOME MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

On behalf of the management and staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN), I warmly welcome you to this new year, 2026. As we step into this year, we remain committed to advancing excellence in pharmacy practice, strengthening professional standards, and fostering innovation that benefits both practitioners and the communities we serve.



Pharm Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed FPSN FPCPharm

Registrar/CEO

Pharmacy Council of Nigeria

We look forward to working together with renewed energy and purpose, ensuring that this year is defined by growth, collaboration, and impactful contributions to pharmaceutical care across Nigeria.

All practitioners are strongly encouraged to undertake the early renewal of annual licences. Please ensure this is completed promptly to avoid administrative delays and ensure an uninterrupted professional practice. As is our tradition, this monthly newsletter provides a comprehensive recap of our activities in the previous month, alongside vital policy updates and information.

Month under review



EDUCATION & TRAINING

Induction

In December 2025, the Council successfully inducted a total of three hundred and thirty (330) Pharmacy graduands. These new professionals were from University of Lagos (UNILAG), Lagos State; Enugu State University of Science and Technology (ESUT), Agbani, Enugu State; and Nnamdi Azikiwe University (NAU), Awka, Anambra State. In addition, a supplementary induction was administered for one (1) foreign-trained Pharmacy graduate. The Council extends its heartiest congratulations to the newly inducted Pharmacists on achieving this significant career milestone.

RE-ACCREDITATION VISIT TO UNN

Maintaining the quality of pharmaceutical education is a core mandate of the Council. To this end, a PCN team conducted a re-accreditation visit to the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN), Enugu State from 8 – 12 December 2025.



Month under review



PHARMACY PRACTICE

OP/CEP

To ensure the highest standards of pharmaceutical service delivery at all levels, we organised Orientation and Continuous Education Programmes (OP/CEP) for Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVVs) in three states:

- Enugu State: 3-4 December 2025
- Kaduna State: 16 December 2025
- Edo State: 19 December 2025

INSPECTION, MONITORING, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

DMA Inspection

On 23 December 2025, a PCN delegation led by Dr Amina Umar, (Director, IM&QA) conducted an inspection of the Plateau State Drugs and Medical Commodities Management Agency. This exercise was carried out in accordance with our statutory mandate and aimed to assess the agency's adherence to the National Drug Distribution Guidelines (NDDG), ensuring the integrity of the pharmaceutical supply chain within the region. She later briefed the Honorable Commissioner of Health to ensure effective implementation on the compliance directives



Month under review



Policy Spotlight: Launch of the NEPP

A milestone was achieved on Monday, 23 December 2025, as the Federal Government, through the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, officially launched the National Electronic Pharmacy Policy (NEPP) and its Strategic Implementation Plan in Abuja. The initiative aims to digitize drug sales, improve quality, and enhance access to assured medicines nationwide.

The launch of NEPP marks a major milestone in Nigeria's digital health journey, establishing a regulatory framework to formalize online medicine sales, combat counterfeit drugs, and strengthen patient safety. By ensuring quality-assured access to medicines, enhancing transparency, and modernizing pharmaceutical services, the policy brings Nigeria's pharmacy sector into the digital age for better healthcare delivery.

The policy provides clear rules for online pharmaceutical services, including safe delivery systems, licensed providers, and accountability, under the purview of PCN.

Month under review

PROGRAMMES COORDINATING DEPARTMENT

Global Digital Health Forum (Nairobi, Kenya)

The Council participated in a high-level Panel Session at the Global Digital Health Forum which took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 3-5 December 2025. Other participants at the session were representatives of Maisha Meds and Lagos State Malaria Elimination Programme (LSMEP). The session discussed, among other things, the regulatory shift that would be needed for scaling digital reimbursement and structured referrals that were piloted in the World Bank Impact Project (Component 1B) in Lagos State tagged, “Pathway to Malaria Pre-Elimination and Digitisation project in Lagos”. PCN was represented by the head of department of the Programmes coordinating department, Pharm Ene Daniel-Ebune

Launch of the Global Fund TASAD Model

The Council also participated in a 3-day Launch and Co-Creation activities for the Global Fund Technical Assistance Support for the Alternate Delivery (TASAD) Model organised by Society for Family Health (SFH) from 9-11 December 2025. The project seeks to develop alternate models through which Community Pharmacists (CPs) and PPMVs can contribute to delivering high quality HIV self-testing and malaria RDT services.



Month under review

ENFORCEMENT

Intellectual Property and Pharmaceutical Crime Training by INTERPOL

From 15–18 December 2025, the International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL) conducted a training session on Intellectual Property and Pharmaceutical Crime, involving representatives from the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN), the Nigeria Police, the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU), and the Nigerian Customs Service. The event focused on discussing strategies to combat pharmaceutical crime and copyright/property rights infringements, with the PCN recognised as a vital stakeholder in regulating pharmaceutical practices in Nigeria.

A key outcome was the call for increased collaboration with PCN to ensure that premises involved in pharmaceutical crime, online or physical, are effectively sanctioned. The Head of Department, Enforcement, represented the Council at the session, reinforcing the PCN's commitment to inter-agency security and professional integrity.



COURTESY VISIT

The Executive committee of the Association of Hospital and Administrative Pharmacists, Niger State Chapter paid a courtesy visit to the Registrar of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria on Tuesday, 30th of December. The objective of the visit was to discuss ways of improving Pharmacy practice in Niger state.



As we begin this new year, the PCN reaffirms its dedication to ensuring the provision of sustainable pharmaceutical regulatory services (personnel, premises, practice) for the well-being of the populace, supporting the growth of pharmacy practice nationwide. We encourage all members to embrace the opportunities ahead with diligence, innovation, and a spirit of collaboration. Together, let us make 2026 a year marked by excellence and service.

SIGNED

**PHARM IBRAHIM BABASHEHU AHMED, FPSN, FPCPHARM, FNAPHARM, FCAI, IION
REGISTRAR/CEO
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