

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK



WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the Management and Staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria, I welcome our esteemed stakeholders to the month of August.

As we navigate this new month, the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN) remains steadfast in its commitment to upholding the highest standards of pharmaceutical practice and safeguarding public health across the nation. This past month has been marked by significant strides in our regulatory and enforcement efforts, reflecting our unwavering dedication to ensuring a safe and ethical practice in the pharmaceutical landscape. We are proud to share updates on these crucial activities and the positive impact they are having on the sector.

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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



Month under review



PHARMACY PRACTICE

Induction/Oath-Taking of Pharmacy Graduands

On July 07, 2026, we welcomed eighty-five (85) fresh Pharmacy graduands into the profession from Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Bayelsa State.

Regarding Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Orientation Programme (FPGOP), a total of ninety-eight (98) foreign-trained pharmacists successfully completed the 2026 First Cycle. Thirteen (13) participants have evidence of registration in the country of training while the remaining eighty-four (84), with 1 participant absent, without evidence of registration were inducted into the profession on 20 July 2026 at the National Universities Commission (NUC), Maitama, Abuja.

PCN welcomes its newest colleagues and wishes them a successful and rewarding journey.

Advisory Visit to European University of Nigeria

PCN Advisory team paid an advisory visit to European University of Nigeria, Abuja, on 28 July 2026. They were warmly received by the Pro-Chancellor Prof. Charles Esimone, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emmanuel Ibezim, and other management staff during the advisory visit



Month under review



EDUCATION & TRAINING

Accreditation Visit to Veritas

Our team paid an accreditation visit to Veritas University, FCT-Abuja for the purpose of accreditation of the Doctor of Pharmacy degree programme (PharmD) from 01-04 July 2026.

FPGOP SECOND CYCLE

The Second Cycle of 2026 FPGOP is scheduled to hold from 23 August to 2 October 2026, at two (2) PCN designated centres namely:

- i. Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State (North) and
- ii. Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Agulu Campus, Anambra State (South).

Prospective participants are hereby advised to visit the PCN website (www.pcn.gov.ng) or the nearest PCN office for further enquiries. The deadline for submission of all application forms and relevant documents is Friday, 14 August 2026.



Month under review

1. Enforcement Exercise:

(i) Cross River State

The PCN National Enforcement Team conducted an enforcement exercise in Cross River State from 13–16 July 2026, covering ten (10) Local Government Areas.

Outcome:

- Total premises inspected: 603 (95 pharmacies, 216 Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendor (PPMV) premises, and 292 illegal medicine outlets)
- Total premises sealed: 505 (54 pharmacies, 159 PPMV premises, and 292 illegal medicine outlets)
- Compliance Directives Issued: 16 (7 pharmacies and 9 PPMV premises) to facilities with regulatory deficiencies requiring corrective action.

(ii) Ogun State

The Council also carried out an enforcement exercise in Ogun State from 27–31 July 2026, covering eleven (11) Local Government Areas.

Outcome:

- Total premises inspected: 738 (pharmacy and PPMV premises, as well as illegal medicine outlets)
- Total premises sealed: 383 (123 pharmacies, 87 PPMV premises, and 173 illegal medicine outlets)
- Compliance Directives Issued: 3 to premises with regulatory deficiencies requiring corrective action.

Across both states, common violations included operating without valid licences, poor storage practices, unauthorised access to controlled medicines, and the unsupervised training of apprentices.

The Council remains steadfast in its commitment to sanitising the pharmaceutical distribution system, ensuring compliance with regulatory standards, and safeguarding public health through sustained enforcement activities.



Month under review

PHARMACY PRACTICE

Continuing Professional Development

In line with the mandate of the Council to promote excellence in pharmacy education through Continuing Professional Development (CPD), Cycle 6 and Cycle 5 mop-up of the Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) programme was mounted in Akwa Ibom study centre from the 30 June - 3 July 2026 where 320 pharmacists participated in the programme.

Additionally, we facilitated a series of Specialised MCPD trainings during the 45th Annual International Scientific Conference of the Association of Community Pharmacists (ACPN), Unity 2026, held in Abuja from 27 July to end today, 1 August 2026. The trainings, which attracted pharmacists from across the country, covered key areas including Vaccination and Basic Life Support/Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (BLS/CPR), Universal Treatment Curriculum (UTC) on Substance Abuse Prevention, Basic Ethics Training for Community Pharmacists, and Research and Data Collection in Community Pharmacy Practice. The sessions were designed to enhance participants' knowledge, skills, and professional competence in line with emerging trends in pharmacy practice and the Council's commitment to promoting continuous professional development and quality healthcare service delivery.



Month under review

INSPECTION, MONITORING, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

CWC KANO INSPECTION

We had a week-long inspection exercise at the Kanawa Pharmaceuticals and Partners Coordinated Wholesales Centre (CWC) in Kano Economic City, Dangwauro, Kano State. This exercise which took place from 20-24 July 2026, was to ensure compliance with the good storage and distribution practice (GSDP), and also for registration of individual subsidiaries (premises) within the CWC.



Photo Highlights: DMA Inspection - Ekiti State Drugs and Health Supplies Management Agency (1 July 2026)



Photo Highlight: Engagement with SPROXIL Manufacturing Company



Month under review

PROGRAMME COORDINATION

3-Tier Accreditation System: Engagement with PSNF

On the development of cost models and financial analysis for the Three-Tier Accreditation System for Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMV) in Nigeria, we had an engagement meeting with the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria Foundation (PSNF) on 1 July 2026 in Abuja. The meeting was focused on validating key findings from stakeholder consultations, building consensus on the PPMV training and accreditation costing approach and assumptions, and to agree on follow-up actions, responsibilities, and timelines for finalizing the cost model and financial analysis. A follow up validation meeting held on the 27 July 2026.



Launch of TAMI Abuja Hub

Furthermore, the PCN hosted a Town Hall meeting on the Talent Access and Mobility Initiative (TAMI) in collaboration with the Africa Resource Center for Excellence in Supply Chain Management (ARC_ESM) held in PCN Abuja on the 3 July 2026.

The meeting had the attendance of different stakeholders from various organisations with discussion sessions on Supply Chain Education. Additionally, there were TAMI Exhibition stands displaying various programmes for professional development, and the ARC_ESM Abuja Hub was launched.

Month under review

Meeting with NESHP on the CP Engagement

PCN had an engagement meeting with the National Eye, Ear and Sensory function Health Programme (NESHP) on the engagement of Community Pharmacists (CPs) and Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVVs) in Community-Based Presbyopia service delivery, held at Abuja on the 9 July 2026. The meeting was focused on providing an overview of the Effective Spectacle Coverage Initiative Nigeria (ESGIN) Jigibola 2.0 Presbyopia Programme and rationale for CPs and PPMVVs pilot, and also on the proposed model and programme plan. The NESHP in collaboration with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) will be conducting the pilot programme in Kaduna state to demonstrate the feasibility of CPs and PPMVV-based distribution of reading glasses in the state. They will be trained to screen and dispense reading glasses to clients having Presbyopia.



Reviewing Achievements and Sustainability of the IntegratE Project

PCN participated in the 10th IntegratE Project Steering Committee Meeting, held on Tuesday, 21 July 2026, at Wells Carlton Hotel, Asokoro, Abuja, FCT. Chaired by the Registrar of PCN, the meeting aimed to review overall project achievements, key results, and lessons learned; discuss dissemination strategies; and finalize sustainability and close-out transition plans.

Month under review

CP Training Sessions

PCN, in collaboration with the Society for Family Health (SFH), through the Global Fund Technical Assistance Support for Alternate Delivery Model (GF TASAD), conducted training sessions for Community Pharmacists (CPs) to strengthen malaria and HIV service delivery within the private health sector. The trainings were held in Lagos State from 7-10 July 2026.

Stakeholders' Workshop on Development of Caregivers' Literacy Document

PCN participated in a 5-day stakeholders' workshop on the development of the Caregivers' Literacy Document organised by National AIDS, viral Hepatitis and STIs Control Programme (NASCP) from 12-17 July 2026.

The workshop brought together technical experts, programme managers, clinicians, public health specialists, academia to review existing materials, discuss and develop a standardised literacy document covering key messages on HIV, TB, malaria, nutrition, immunization for caregivers' of the paediatric population. A draft document was developed to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Q2 RH-PICM Meeting

PCN participated in the Q2 Reproductive Health Product Introduction Coordination Mechanism (RH-PICM) Meeting held on 13 July 2026 at Rockview Classic Hotel, Abuja, FCT. The meeting was aimed at discussing the implementation of Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (SRMNH) programs across the country, among others.

Enhancing PPMV Capacity Under the PRIME Project

Also, we participated in a training for PPMVs with premises participating in the Private Retailers for Improved Malaria Outcomes (PRIME) Project in Katsina and Kaduna states from the 14 -17 July 2026 and 20- 22 July 2026 respectively. The Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) has partnered with the National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP) and Roll Back Malaria partners to increase the access to affordable and effective malaria prevention, diagnostic and treatment tools, such as Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Tests (mRDTs), Artemisin-based Combination Therapies (ACTs) and Artesunate formulations, to reduce malaria morbidity and improve treatment outcomes.

Month under review

Enhancing PPMV Capacity Under the PRIME Project

The PCN had a dissemination meeting with the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria Foundation (PSNF) to present research findings of Depot Medroxyprogesterone Acetate-Subcutaneous (DPMA-SC) delivery by Tier 1 Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs), held at Abuja on the 17th of July 2026. The focus of the meeting was to present key findings of the research conducted in Kaduna, Kano, Lagos & Nasarawa states to the key stakeholders, validate the key findings of the research by stakeholders, and to agree on the next steps and follow-up actions.

Strengthening Private Sector Malaria Care Through Strategic Collaboration

PCN had a virtual orientation meeting with the National Malaria Elimination Programme (NMEP) on the private sector malaria case management project on the 24 July 2026. Stakeholders from GOJAC Nigeria Ltd. and Phillips Pharmaceuticals Nigeria Ltd. were in attendance. The meeting was focused on providing an overview of the private sector project highlighting key activities and achievements to date, the implementation of improving access to quality malaria care in the private sector, and an overview of the data verification methodology and quality assurance process.

A follow-up virtual meeting was held on the 27 July 2026, discussions were centred on the PCN deployment framework, Phillips Pharmaceuticals Facilitation execution parameters, GOJAC field execution parameters, and field work logistics.

Advancing Maternal Health Through Policy Dialogue

PCN attended the National Policy Roundtable meeting for policy and implementation pathways for ferric carboxymaltose (PIP: FCM) for treatment of anaemia in pregnancy and after birth in Nigeria. The meeting was organised by Society of Gynaecology & Obstetrics of Nigeria (SOGON) and held on 28 July 2026 in Abuja. There were discussions about strategies to employ to ensure acceptance and scale up of the use of ferric carboxymaltose, a new generation intravenous iron medication in the treatment of anaemia in pregnancy and reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity in Nigeria



The PSN Foundation also paid a courtesy call on the Registrar on the 31st of July 2026

Month under review

HUMAN RESOURCES

DAZOCC Meeting

We recognise that excellence in service to our stakeholders begins with purposeful internal collaboration, reflection and continuous improvement. In keeping with this commitment, we convened our 28th Departmental and Zonal Officers Consultative Committee (DAZOCC) meeting on Thursday, 9 July 2026.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the Registrar to engage with Heads of Department, Deputy Heads of Department, Unit Heads, Directors, and Zonal Officers to review our progress, discuss challenges and identify strategies for continuous improvement. We consciously strive to strengthen our internal systems and regulatory services to enhance the delivery of our mandate.



Onboarding Exercise: Newly Recruited Staff

The Council is delighted to welcome a new cohort of staff who have joined our workforce, further strengthening our capacity to deliver on our mandate. To ensure a smooth transition into the organisation, a comprehensive orientation programme was held from 27–31 July.

The onboarding exercise introduced the new employees to the Council's mandate, core values, organisational structure, policies, and operational procedures, equipping them with the knowledge and tools needed to contribute effectively from the outset. We warmly welcome our new colleagues to the Council as we work together in advancing excellence in pharmacy regulation and practice.



Month under review



LEGAL

Registrar's Meeting with PCN External Solicitors

We had our Annual External Solicitors' Meeting on 8 July 2026 at the PCN Head Office, Abuja, bringing together the Council's management, external solicitors, and key stakeholders to review ongoing litigation, discuss enforcement challenges, share legal strategies, and strengthen collaboration towards effective implementation of the PCN Act 2022. The engagement also provided a platform for aligning legal positions and enhancing the Council's regulatory and enforcement activities.



ICPC Ethics and Integrity Compliance Scorecard Assessment

The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) conducted its annual deployment of the Ethics and Integrity Compliance Scorecard (EICS) and the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) Effectiveness Index (AEI) across Federal Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), assessing the operational effectiveness of the PCN's Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) on 21 July 2026. The exercise, which forms part of ICPC's broader institutional mandate to eradicate corruption and entrench a culture of integrity within the Nigerian public service, evaluates the extent to which MDAs have embedded anti-corruption mechanisms, transparency frameworks, and ethical governance practices into their day-to-day operations. PCN remains committed to upholding the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and integrity in the administration of its regulatory mandate.



Month under review



Engagement with RFPTN

The Registrar had a productive engagement with the National Executives of the Reformed Forum of Pharmacy Technicians in Nigeria (RFPTN) on 13 July 2026, to discuss key areas of concern, share updates, and explore practical solutions.



Courtesy Visits

Executives of the Association of Lady Pharmacists paid a courtesy call on the Registrar on the 29th of July, 2026 to discuss pertinent issues as it affects Nigerian Lady Pharmacists. In the same vein, the Pharmaceutical Wholesalers and Distributors Association of Nigeria (PWDAN) paid a courtesy to the Office of the Registrar on 30 July 2026 to discuss and seek clarification on some subjects pertaining to the National Drug Distribution Guidelines (NDDG) and regulatory requirements.



Conferences

The Registrar participated in the 7th annual scientific conference of the West African Post graduate College of Pharmacists held in Lagos.

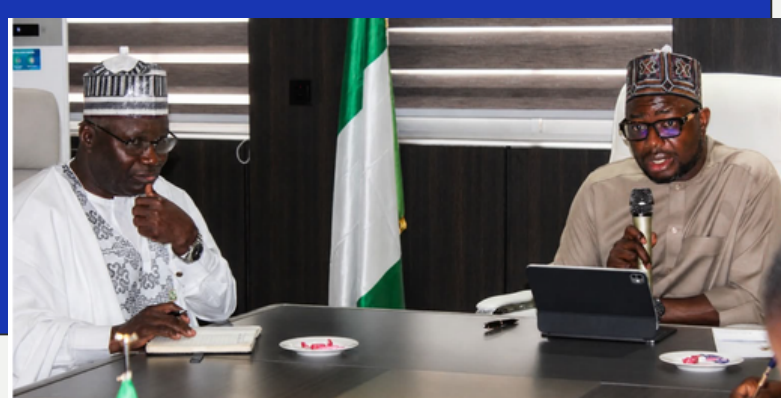
Similarly, the Registrar participated in the 45th annual National conference of the Association of Community Pharmacists of Nigeria tagged Unity 2026

The Registrar gave goodwill messages at the two events providing critical updates on the recent developments and advances in the Registry



Courtesy Visit: Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction

The Registrar/CEO PCN, accompanied by members of the Council's management team, paid a courtesy visit to the Honourable Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction, Pharm. (Dr.) Bernard M. Doro, yesterday, 31 July 2026. The visit provided an opportunity to identify with and congratulate the Honourable Minister on his well-deserved appointment, while reaffirming PCN's commitment to fostering inter-ministerial collaboration in the interest of public health and the advancement of pharmacy practice in Nigeria.



As we reflect on the activities of July 2026, we remain grateful for the progress made in advancing the Council's mandate through regulation, stakeholder engagement, capacity building, enforcement, and strategic partnerships. These achievements underscore our unwavering commitment to safeguarding public health and strengthening pharmacy practice in Nigeria.

We appreciate the dedication and support of our staff, partners, and stakeholders, and look forward to building on these successes in the months ahead as we continue to pursue excellence in pharmaceutical regulation and service delivery.

A red handwritten signature of Pharm Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed.

SIGNED

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