

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK



WELCOME MESSAGE

WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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

On behalf of the Management and Staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN), I warmly welcome you to the month of September 2026. August was, by every measure, an eventful month for the Council. From our advisory visit to Redeemer's University and the



induction of forty-six new pharmacy graduands, to enforcement operations across ten local government areas in Yobe State, hospital pharmacy inspections in four states, and our continued engagement with national policy processes on alcohol control, task-shifting and task sharing, and self-care, the Council remained firmly focused on the discharge of its regulatory mandate.

I invite you to journey with us through the highlights of the past month, captured in the pages that follow.

Month under review

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

FPGOP Second Cycle

The Eligibility Interview for the second cycle of 2026 Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Orientation Programme (FPGOP) successfully took place from 23-26 August 2026 at two (2) PCN-designated centres: Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State (North), and Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Agulu Campus, Anambra State (South). At the end of the eligibility interview, sixty-three (63) out of the eight-six (86) participants were successful, while the unsuccessful twenty-three (23) were advised to undertake six (6) months remedial programme.



Advisory Visit

In furtherance of our mandate, the PCN team paid an advisory visit to Redeemer's University, Ede, Osun State from 19-21 August 2026.

Induction/Oath-Taking of Pharmacy Graduands

Also, the Council welcomed forty-six (46) fresh pharmacy graduands into the profession, on 26 August 2026, from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Kaduna State. We wish them success and breakthroughs in their service to humanity.



Month under review



ENFORCEMENT

The PCN National Enforcement Team visited Yobe State for enforcement exercise in the month of August, covering ten (10) Local Government Areas – Damaturu, Jakusko, Potiskum, Fika, Fune, Nguru, Nangere, Bade, Karasuwa, Machina.

The outcome of the exercise that took place from 24-27 August was:

- Total premises inspected: 601 (34 pharmacies, 267 patent medicine stores, and 300 unregistered/illegal outlets)
- Total premises sealed: 430 for various offences (20 pharmacies, 110 patent medicine stores, and 300 illegal outlets)
- Compliance Directives: 21 were issued to premises with regulatory deficiencies requiring corrective action.

INSPECTION, MONITORING, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

DMA Inspection: Lagos CMS, OGDHCMA

From 5-6 August, we visited Lagos Central Medical Store (CMS) and Ogun State Drug and Health Commodities Management Agency (OGDHCMA) to inspect these state-owned medicine facilities for their registration and licensure in line with the National Drug Distribution Guidelines. At the end of the visit in Ogun State, the PCN team paid a courtesy call on the Honourable Commissioner for Health, Dr. T. Coker, and the Permanent Secretary, State Ministry of Health, Dr. Oladehinde Kayode.



Month under review

PCN-QMS: Internal Auditors Training

As part of our drive for continuous quality improvement, the PCN Quality Management System (QMS) Team participated in a two-day experiential Internal Auditors Training held from 18–19 August 2026.

Facilitated by NGCL Nigeria, through Lenora Consulting Limited, the training was designed to reinforce and enhance our existing QMS framework, equipping the team with practical tools and insights to strengthen internal audit processes across the Council.

We continually remain focused on building robust systems and capacities that support the effective discharge of our regulatory mandate and the delivery of quality service to stakeholders.



PCN Hosts Chinese Investors on Proposed LVP Manufacturing Plant

On Wednesday, 26 August 2026, a representative of Brains & Hammers led a team of Chinese investors and technical experts on a courtesy visit to the Registrar/CEO PCN. The visit focused on seeking the Council's regulatory guidance on the proposed establishment of a Large-Volume Parenteral (LVP) infusion manufacturing plant at Kano Economic City. The delegation was led by Ln. Kuny, CEO of Kang Yuan/Deps Company, which is seeking to invest in Nigeria in furtherance of bilateral trade relations initiated during the administration of former President Muhammadu Buhari.

The engagement provided an opportunity for the delegation to discuss regulatory requirements and relevant considerations for establishing the proposed manufacturing facility in Nigeria. We had a fruitful deliberation with the team.

Month under review

PHARMACY PRACTICE

Hospital Pharmacy Inspection

The PCN constituted an inspection team to conduct inspection/accreditation visits to hospital pharmacies in various states as part of its mandate to ensure that the minimum standards for hospital pharmacy practice for the assurance of pharmaceutical care are met by benchmarking PCN standards and requirements.

These exercises took place in:

- Rivers State: 5-7 August 2026
- Katsina State: 17-21 August 2026
- Osun State: 24-25 August 2026
- Abuja, FCT: 21-25 August 2026



Professional Development: OP/CEP

In the month under review, Orientation Programme (OP) and Continuing Education Programme (CEP) were conducted for holders of PPMV licence in Abia State from 6-8 August 2026, and in Plateau State from 20-22 August 2026.

Month under review

Launch of the Nigeria Alcohol Policy and Multisectoral Implementation Plan

PCN participated as a key stakeholder at the launch of the Nigeria Alcohol Policy and Multisectoral Implementation Plan (2026–2030) held on 27 August 2026 in Asokoro, Abuja.

The policy launched by the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, establishes a coordinated national framework for addressing the public health impact of alcohol use. The five-year implementation plan seeks to strengthen multisectoral action, promote responsible alcohol consumption, protect the health and wellbeing of Nigerians, and support responsible practices within the alcohol industry.



Interaction with JuniorX Initiative Academy

On the 14 August 2026, we hosted a presentation and interactive session with JuniorX Innovative Academy, an online learning provider on a proposed online Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) platform for pharmacists in Nigeria.

Discussions explored the platform's structure, regulatory oversight, data management, as well as other relevant areas with both parties expressing interest in further exploring the proposed partnership and next steps.



Month under review

PROGRAM COORDINATION

IntegratE Project Dissemination Meeting

PCN participated in the IntegratE project dissemination meeting held in Enugu on Wednesday, 5 August 2026. The findings, insights and data generated during the implementation of the IntegratE project in Enugu State were shared with government officials, policy makers, pharmacists and community leaders.

WTP Study Dissemination on Community Pharmacy HIV Services

PCN participated in a 2-day Interim Evaluation and Dissemination of Willingness-to-Pay (WTP) Study Findings organised by the Society for Family Health (SFH) with the support of Global Fund (GF) Technical Assistance Support for the Alternate Delivery (TASAD). The meeting took place in Abuja from 12-13 August 2026. The WTP study was undertaken to find out if participants were willing to pay for oral PrEP and HIVST services in a Community Pharmacy. The GF-TASAD model seeks to promote HIV prevention services particularly HIV self-testing (HIVST) and oral Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) in Community Pharmacies. Additionally, the Model supports CPs and PPMVs to deliver malaria test-and-treat services using malaria rapid diagnostic test (mRDT) kits and ACTs.

PCN Joins Finalisation of Caregivers Literacy Document

Given the role of PCN as a regulator of healthcare providers in the Community, PCN participated in the 2-day finalisation of the Caregivers Literacy document meeting organised by National AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and STIs Control Programme (NASCP) held from 13-14 August 2026. The meeting reviewed the draft document and discussed the plan for pilot and dissemination of the caregivers literacy document.

PCN, NMEP Monitor Malaria Pilot in Niger, Katsina States

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 PPMVs in Niger and Katsina States. The activity was held between 24 - 28 August 2026.

Month under review

Validation of National Self-Care Guidelines

Also, we participated in the validation meeting of the National Guidelines on Self-Care for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent and Elderly Health (RMNCAEH) which took place 17-21 August 2026 in Lagos. The meeting was organised by the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in collaboration with Partners and stakeholders in the self-care space. The meeting validated the second draft of the reviewed National Self-care Guidelines so as to incorporate all the components of RMNCAEH thereby promoting a comprehensive continuum of care throughout the life course.



National Task Shifting/Sharing Policy Review

As a key stakeholder in the healthcare sector, PCN participated in the 2nd Stakeholders Meeting on the review of the National Task Shifting, Task Sharing Policy, SOPs and Implementation Plan which took place 24 - 28 August 2026 in Lagos. The meeting organised by the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare in collaboration with Partners and other stakeholders reviewed the updated draft Policy, SOPs and Implementation Plan to ensure that the outcomes of the 1st stakeholders were incorporated. The meeting also resolved outstanding technical, policy, operational and institutional issues, and harmonised the Policy, SOPs, task-allocation matrices and implementation plan.



Month under review

2026 PROMOTION EXERCISE

The Council successfully held its 2026 Promotion Exercise for eligible senior and junior staff from 11–12 August 2026 at the Head Office, Abuja. The exercise reinforces our commitment to merit, career growth, and staff motivation within the Council.



AHAPN 27th Annual National Scientific Conference

PCN participated in the 27th Annual National Scientific Conference of the Association of Hospital and Administrative Pharmacists of Nigeria (AHAPN), "TREASURE BASE 2026", held in Port Harcourt, Rivers State from 3–7 August 2026. This year's conference was themed, "Strengthening Pharmacy Workforce: Skills, Synergy, and Systems for Healthcare Transformation".

At the event, PCN emerged First Runner-Up in the Group Dynamics Competition (Administrative Category), in recognition of the Council's contributions to the advancement of the pharmacy profession in Nigeria.

Month under review

THE PANEL 2026

The Registrar participated in a fireside chat during the 18th edition of The Panel Conference, a Retail Pharmacy Business summit hosted by Pharmalliance in Lagos 11-13, August 2026. The Registrar seized the opportunity to provide critical updates on the activities of the Registry and also fielded questions from the audience both onsite and online.



PSN LAGOS PHARMACY WEEK

The Registrar/CEO, PCN, was the Keynote Speaker at the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN) Lagos Scientific Week 2026, themed "One Health, One Pharmacy: Connecting Sectors, Transforming Health".



FIP MONTREAL, 2026

At the ongoing 84th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (FIP Montreal 2026), taking place from 30 August to 2 September 2026 in Montreal, Canada. This year's theme is "One Health, One Pharmacy – Bridging Science, Practice and Education", emphasizing the importance of pharmacists in advancing health outcomes and equitable access to essential medicines.



As we conclude this edition, I wish to reiterate the Council's unwavering commitment to safeguarding the standards of pharmacy practice in Nigeria, protecting public health, and strengthening the systems that make quality pharmaceutical care possible for every Nigerian. None of the achievements captured in this newsletter would have been possible without the dedication of our staff, the cooperation of our stakeholders, and the continued support of our partners across government and the private sector.

I encourage all practitioners, partners, and members of the public to continue engaging with the Council as we work together towards a safer, more effective pharmaceutical sector.

I wish you a productive and fulfilling month of September 2026.

SIGNED

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

PHARMACY COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (PCN)

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

