



An overview of the National Pharmacy Council

June, 2016

BACKGROUND

Legally....

- Set up by the Law No 45/2012 of 14/01/2013
- NPC is an independent statutory organization
- It is accountable for the regulation of registered pharmacy professionals
- It plays an advisory role to:
 - MOH
 - the pharmacy institutions training programmes (University, Other institutions of higher learning...)

Our Vision

- **to become a centre of excellence in the regulation and control of Pharmacy profession.**

BACKGROUND (con't)

Our Mission

NPC ensures :

- that the rules, honor and dignity of the pharmacy profession are complied with
- protection of public health.
- compliance with the principles of morality, integrity and dedication essential to the practice of the pharmacy profession
- that all its members comply with their professional obligations
- That the requirements and the laws and regulations governing pharmacists are in place and implemented

BACKGROUND(con't)

Our Values and Principles

- Transparency and Integrity;
- Accountability;
- Objectivity;
- Independent;
- Continuous improvement;
- Responsiveness to change;
- Collaborative models of leadership;
- Respect and Professionalism;
- No discrimination.

COMPETENCE OF THE COUNCIL

The Council have the following competence:

- to grant and revoke the authorization to practice the pharmacy profession;
- to provide institutions of higher learning advice with respect to pharmacy academic programs;
- to take disciplinary measures against pharmacists.

ORGANS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council have three (3) organs:

- The National Council Board;
- The Bureau of the National Council Board;
- Technical Committees.

NATIONAL COUNCIL BOARD

- NCB is the supreme organ of the Council.
- 23 Members - elected by their peers in each Province and in the City of Kigali
 - 2 for each province (4 in Kigali), 2 for pharmacy technicians
 - 9 members of the bureau (chair, vice chair, ES, treasurer, 5 advisors)
- serve for a three (3) year term of office renewable only once.

Competence

- establishes internal rules and regulations
- serve as an interlocutor with public and private organs
- collaborate with all other organs involved in the practice of the medical profession.

NATIONAL COUNCIL BOARD (NCB)(CON'T)

- **Responsibilities**

- to participate in the process of defining the quality of potential procedures expected from a pharmacist
- participate in determining standards for pharmacy education at the university level in Rwanda;

THE BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL BOARD

- comprised of nine (9) members including
 - Chairperson and a
 - Deputy Chairperson,
 - Secretary,
 - Treasurer
 - and five (5) Advisors.
- Do its utmost to ensure the smooth running of activities of the Council and those of its Committees;

TECHNICAL COMMITTEES.

The committees are:

- Financial and Administrative Committee,
- Disciplinary and ethics Committee,
- Education and research Committee,
- Assessment and Registration Committee,

- Appeal Committee (ad hoc),
- Tender Committee (ad hoc),

PERMANENT STAFF

- The Permanent Secretary
- CPD , Research and communication coordinator
- Finance and Administrative Assistant (to be hired)
- Support staff



Main activities

PRE-REGISTRATION EVALUATION

Requirements for anyone wishing to be registered and practice pharmacy, nationals and foreign nationals eligible

- the pre-registration examination takes place two times a year (September, February).
- After successful completion of internship and graduation
 - Valid degree or equivalent issued by the HEC

PRE-REGISTRATION EVALUATION

- Pre registration exam: Requirements
 - An application letter addressed to the NPC chair
 - A recognized, certified notarized degree from a recognized university
 - An equivalence issued by the High Education Council is required for foreign citizens and Rwandese who possess foreign qualifications.
 - For foreign citizens, a proof of registration with their home country pharmacy council and a certificate of good professional standing.
 - Proof of payment of registration fees of 30,000 Frw for nationals and 100\$ for foreign citizens
 - Copy of the ID or passport bio-data page
- Open questions, multiple questions, short answers, case studies, fill in the blanks, matching column, interviews
- 3hours for written exam, 20 minutes max/pax for interview
- Questions related to pharmacy laws and regulations, pharmacology, toxicology, applied therapeutics, pharmacy practice, supply chain, pharmaceuticals

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REGISTRATION

Requirements :

- Proof of successful participation in the pre-registration examination
- A good criminal record;
- Diploma in Pharmacy certifying satisfactory completion of basic pharmaceutical studies
- Prof of payment of registration fees;
- Proof of successful participation in the pre-registration examination;
- foreign professionals have to submit a certificate of good standing issued by a pharmacy council of their corresponding countries.

LICENSING

Requirements

- Evidence of membership of the NPC (registration certificate).
- Evidence of being in good standing (no criminal convictions or professional disciplinary sanction)

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT(CPD)

Definition:

The **process** by which pharmacy professionals **continuously** enhance their **knowledge, skills** and **personal qualities** throughout their professional careers and encompasses a range of activities including continuing education and supplementary training.

CPD (CON'T)

- Every practitioner must maintain and update his/her knowledge
- population demands and expectations continue to increase.
- new development in the health sector and technological revolutions
- CPD empower the professionals to provide competent and safe medical care.

CPD BENEFITS

For Pharmacists these benefits include:

- The broadening of the fundamentals of health science knowledge,
- The acquisition of new skills and attitude,
- The ability to deliver new services,
- Development of the habit of critical thinking on one's own practice,
- Increased professional satisfaction.

CPD BENEFITS

Rwandan public

- The assurance of the most up-to-date application of scientific knowledge to the specific problems of each patient,
- Provision of a broader range of services,
- Improved level of patient confidence and trust in the health care provider
- Increased competitiveness of Rwandan health care on a regional and international level,
- Improved health statistics at a national level because of progressive improvement in health care.

CPD ACTIVITIES

- Attendance to lectures, workshops or Symposia or seminars
- Presenting at workshop, seminar, clinical session
- Attendance to clinical training sessions
- Attendance to a Journal club
- Etc...

CPD PROVIDER

- An institution, organization, or group of professionals that is accredited by NPC to issues CPD credits
- Must be recognized by the NPC
- Should prove capacity in organizing and implementing activities leading to CPD credits

Where to find us

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