# 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, pharmaceutics

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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**

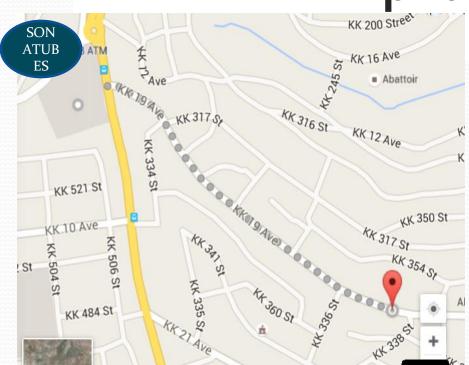
- Attendance to lectures, workshops or Symposia or seminars
- Presenting at workshop, seminar, clinical session
- Attendance to clinical training sessions
- Attendance to a Journal club
- Etc...

#### **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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