



South African
Pharmacy Council

SAPC e-Note



SAPC e-Note: THE HANDLING OF MEDICINES BY UNREGISTERED PERSONS AND/OR AT UNREGISTERED FACILITIES

Dear Responsible Pharmacist,

SAPC e-Note: THE HANDLING OF MEDICINES BY UNREGISTERED PERSONS AND/OR AT UNREGISTERED FACILITIES

The South African Pharmacy Council (hereafter “Council”) has been inundated with queries concerning the handling and delivery of medicines to or from unregistered facilities. While in full support of expanded access to medicines, Council is of the view that such expansion of access should occur within the relevant legislative requirements.

Medicines must be dispensed by and/or stored under the direct supervision of a pharmacist or other registered healthcare professional holding the relevant permit. This is in line with Regulation 21 of the *Regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy* (GNR. 1158 of 2000). The requirements of Good Pharmacy Practice in relation to the storage, handling, and dispensing of medicines must be adhered to at all times. The *Requirements and conditions for the evaluation of alternative models for delivery of chronic medication to patients* (attached) must be observed by all entities delivering chronic medication through alternative means, to ensure that the integrity, safety and efficacy of medicines is maintained.

Pharmacies and other registered health facilities are expected to comply with the requirements set out in the *Rules relating to Good Pharmacy Practice* ([see at this link](#)), Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974, the *Regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy* ([see at this link](#)) and the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 101 of 1965 (“Medicines Act”). Furthermore, sections 38 and 39 of the Medicines Act indicate that only registered persons may handle, store, and pack medicines.

Responsible Pharmacists are urged to abide by all legislative requirements for storage, handling, and dispensing of medicines.

Yours faithfully,

VM Tlala

Registrar/CEO

Accessible quality pharmaceutical services for all