

Pharmacy Support Personnel Training

VM TLALA

COO

**South African Pharmacy
Council**



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Pharmacy Council**

Accessible quality pharmaceutical services for all

Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

Content

- The National Qualifications Framework Act, No 68 of 2008
- Co-operation with QCTO
- Council decisions following consultation with stakeholders and TACNHC recommendations
- Training
- OQSF Training
- External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA)-Gateway Examinations
- Entry for current PA into PT qualification
- Work-based Learning
- Proposed pharmacy technician qualifications using HEQSF



Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

The National Qualifications Framework Act, No 68 of 2008

- ▶ 3 Quality Councils
 - UMALUSI -The General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-framework
 - QUALITY COUNCIL FOR TRADES AND OCCUPATIONS – Occupational Qualifications Sub-framework (OQSF)
 - COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING -Higher Education Qualifications Sub-framework (HEQSF)
- ▶ Responsible for standard setting and quality assurance
- ▶ According to Section 28- Despite the provision of any other Act, a professional body must co-operate with the relevant QCs in assurance in its occupational field.
- ▶ Must cooperate with Professional Bodies



Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

Co-operation with QCTO

- ▶ Quality Assurance Partner (QAP)- accreditation and monitoring of providers of legacy qualifications (Historically registered qualifications for pharmacist's assistants- SAPC))
- ▶ Development quality partner (DQP)- Develop the curriculum for the occupational certificates (Health and Welfare SETA with SAPC)
- ▶ Assessment quality partner (AQP)- accredit providers, accredit courses and responsible for the National examination for the occupational certificates.



Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

Council decisions following consultation with stakeholders and TACNHC recommendations

Council resolved :

- ▶ Retain the current pharmacist's assistants and scopes of practice;
 - Basic; and
 - Post-Basic
- ▶ Review the current qualifications to correct the incongruences between the scopes of practice and the competencies;
- ▶ Retain Pharmacy Technician; and
- ▶ Pharmacy Support personnel to be trained using two sub frameworks i.e.
 - Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF); and
 - Occupational Qualifications sub-Framework (OQSF)



Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

Training

- ▶ Distance learning (HEQSF)
- ▶ Full time study (HEQSF)
- ▶ Occupational certificate (OQSF)

Current PSPs	NQF	New PSPs	NQF
Pharmacist's Assistants Basic	NQF 3	Pharmacist's Assistant Basic	NQF 4
Pharmacist's Assistants Post-Basic	NQF 4	Pharmacist's Assistant Post-Basic	NQF 5
		Pharmacy Technician	NQF 6



Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

OQSF Training

- ▶ Skills development provider (SDP) to be accredited for the qualification which is Occupational certificate: Pharmacy Technician
- ▶ OQSF requires that the curriculum should have
 - knowledge (minimum of 20%);
 - practical (minimum of 20%); and
 - work-place (minimum of 20%) components
- ▶ Provider is responsible for all these components



Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

OQSF training

Basic pharmacist's assistant	Post-basic pharmacist's assistant	Pharmacy technician
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum of 6 months of training• Maximum of 12 months of training• Two months of work-based training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum of 12 months of training• Maximum of 24 months of training• Four months of work-based training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum of 18 months of training• Maximum of 36 months of training• Six months of work-based training



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OQSF Training

- ▶ Learners have to do work-place training component (which is approximately 30% for each exit point)
- ▶ Learners do not have to be in the workplace for the entire learning period
- ▶ An external integrated summative assessment (EISA) conducted through the relevant QCTO's Assessment Quality Partner (SAPC in this case) is required for the issuing of this qualification



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External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA)-Gateway Examinations

- ▶ Two examinations consisting of:
 - Calculations paper - with a pass mark of 60%; and
 - General practice paper - with a pass mark of 50%

- ▶ Conducted at an accredited assessment centre

- ▶ Learners have a maximum of **three** attempts to pass the exams



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Entry for current PA into PT qualification

- ▶ Current PA basic – write and pass EISA for the new basic level qualification to enroll as learner post-basic
- ▶ Current PA post-basic - write and pass EISA for a new post-basic level qualification to enroll as learner pharmacy technician
- ▶ Enroll for PT programme at an accredited university (two year Diploma in Pharmacy Technical Support) followed by traineeship



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Work-based Learning

- ▶ To take place in all categories of pharmacy - Training generalists
- ▶ There will be no traineeship after successfully completing EISA for OQSF part qualifications
- ▶ Supervisory pharmacist (Preceptor) with more than 3 years' experience to mentor the learner during the work-based learning and is appointed by the provider
- ▶ Role of the Supervisory pharmacist
 - Ensures that the requirements for WBL are completed
 - Must be present in the workplace during the WBL
 - Reports to the provider



Expanding Role of Pharmacy Support Personnel

Proposed pharmacy technician qualifications using HEQSF

- ▶ Higher Certificate followed by Advanced Certificate (Pharmacy technician)

OR

- ▶ Two year diploma (Pharmacy technician)

- Higher Certificate
- 1 year
- 130 credits

- Advance Certificate
- 1 year
- 140 credits
- Pharmacy

or

- Diploma
- 2 years
- 240 credits



QUESTIONS



THANK YOU!



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