



MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
**PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD**

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When replying please quote our ref No:

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2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2020

**To : All Vice Chancellors of Universities offering Pharmacy**

**All Principals of Colleges offering Pharmacy**

**RE: PHARMACY TRAINING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Reference is made to the above.

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (the Board) is a body-corporate, established under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap 244 of the Laws of Kenya, to regulate the training and practice of pharmacy.

The Board is aware of the dilemma that institutions are facing on the continuity of learning in this era of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The current approved curricula (for both degree and diploma programs) did not envision delivery of the courses through Open Distance and E-Learning (ODEL) platforms. However, for continuity of learning, institutions approved by the Board to offer the degree and/or diploma programs who may wish to deliver some modules using online technology as a stop gap measure during this COVID – 19 Pandemic may do so **provided that** the quality standards in the delivery of the curricula are not compromised.

In this regard;

1. Institutions offering approved pharmacy courses should submit a situational report to the Board on how they are managing the challenges arising due to COVID-19 Pandemic in delivering their curriculum.

2. Institutions that wish to engage in ODEL, should submit documentation, to the Board, of the proposed systems in place, including policies, guidelines and procedures to mitigate against the aforementioned challenges **within two weeks** from receipt of this communication. Each institution should demonstrate how:

- a) Learning (student engagement) shall be conducted equitably in:
  - i. theory;
  - ii. laboratory practical sessions; and
  - iii. experiential learning and placement
- b) Monitoring of students' and lecturers' attendance shall be conducted;
- c) Monitoring of content coverage will be done;
- d) Challenges of internet access by students and lecturers shall be managed;
- e) Examinations shall be conducted without compromising quality standards and security measures; and
- f) Progression shall be implemented with regards to pre-requisites.

The Board will consider and approve engagement in ODEL on a case by case basis as we work together with stakeholders to provide comprehensive guidelines on the same. For purposes of clarity, this communication should not be misconstrued that pharmacy courses can be offered wholly on an online platform. Going forward, the Board endeavors to review its National Core Curricula to accommodate technology as a mode of delivery.

Thanking you for your continued cooperation.

  
Dr. F. M. Siyoi  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

HM/pm