



PHARMACY COUNCIL OF MAURITIUS

10th Floor, Emmanuel Anquetil Building, Port Louis

Tel: 2013493 Email: regpcycouncil@gmail.com

Presentation of the Draft Code of Practice for Pharmacists

Pharmacists and the public in general are invited to read the draft Code of Practice for pharmacists and to share their views with the Pharmacy Council.

The registrar of the Council, email: regpcycouncil@gmail.com, will be pleased to receive your comments.

Pharmacists play pivotal roles in the continuum of health care provided to patients. The responsibility that comes with being an essential health resource is significant. To retain the high level of trust and respect that is given to pharmacists by patients, the public and other health professionals, pharmacists must be both competent and professional in all they do. As professionals, pharmacists are challenged and expected to abide by a high standard of conduct, and by laws and regulations that are relevant to the sector of pharmacy.

The principles contained in the Code apply to all pharmacists, irrespective of their occupation. They are important to the public because the Code has clear recommendations as regards the way pharmacists deal with their customers. The code emphasizes on such values as confidentiality, respect of the patient's autonomy, the necessity to offer the best therapeutic options to the patients, and on quality of care. Additionally, it prescribes the way the pharmacist communicates with the public and with other stakeholders responsible for the delivery of health care.

The Code of Practice serves as a benchmark for monitoring and addressing the conduct of pharmacists. Consistent ethical behaviour creates a positive image of the individual that extends to the image of his profession. In contrast, unethical practices and decisions create negative images of the individual and diminish trust and credibility in his profession.

The Principles and the Guidelines in the Code of Practice will be binding in law and all registered pharmacists will be required to comply with them.

The code is not intended to be exhaustive. There may be situations or obligations that are not expressly provided for, but pharmacists will still be required to meet all implied requirements of ethical practice and abide by the laws governing their professional practice. The Pharmacy Council aims to promote the Code as an extension of the pharmacist's pledge so as to affirm the professionalism of its members.

The Code of Practice forms part of the law that governs the regulation of the profession of pharmacy. The Code of Practice cannot be read and applied in isolation. It must be read together with and in the context of the legislative and regulatory framework, which includes the Pharmacy Act, the Dangerous Drug Act, and their derived regulations, relating to drugs and pharmacy.

=====