

BOARD NOTICE 976 OF 2026

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACY COUNCIL

RULES RELATING TO GOOD PHARMACY PRACTICE

The South African Pharmacy Council herewith publishes amendments for implementation to Annexure A of the *Rules relating to good pharmacy practice*, which was published on 17 December 2004, Government Gazette No. 27112, in Board Notice 129 of 2004 (as amended), in terms of Section 35A(b)(ii) of the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974.

SCHEDULE

Rules relating to what constitutes good pharmacy practice.

1. In these rules, "the Act" shall mean the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974, as amended, and any expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning.
2. The following provision, Annexure A of the *Rules relating to good pharmacy practice*, is hereby amended

(a) SCOPE OF PRACTICE – AUTHORITY, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A RESPONSIBLE PHARMACIST



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AUTHORITY, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A RESPONSIBLE PHARMACIST

- (a) Annexure A, Rule 2: Authority, Duties and Responsibilities of a Responsible Pharmacist *is hereby deleted and replaced with the following:*

2. Authority, duties and responsibilities of a Responsible Pharmacist

In terms of the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974, every pharmacy must, except in such circumstances and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, be conducted under the direct personal supervision of a Responsible Pharmacist, whose name must be displayed conspicuously over the main entrance of such pharmacy and who must be registered as such with Council.

In terms of the ***Regulations relating to the Practice of Pharmacy***, every pharmacy shall, except in such circumstances and subject to such conditions as may be published in rules by Council, be conducted under the **direct personal supervision** of a Responsible Pharmacist whose name must be displayed conspicuously over the main entrance of such pharmacy.

In accordance with the Rules relating to good pharmacy practice published in terms of Section 35A(b) of the Act, direct personal supervision means guidance and support provided by a pharmacist whilst physically present in a pharmacy.

- (b) Annexure A, Rule 2.1: Duties and Responsibilities of a Responsible Pharmacist *is hereby deleted and replaced with the following:*

2.1 Duties and responsibilities of the Responsible Pharmacist

The Responsible Pharmacist must—

- (a) ensure that they in fact continuously supervise the pharmacy in which they have been appointed;
- (b) have appropriate qualifications and experience in the services being rendered by such pharmacy;
- (c) ensure that persons employed in such pharmacy and who provide services forming part of the scope of practice of a pharmacist or pharmacy support personnel are appropriately registered with Council;
- (d) notify Council immediately upon receiving knowledge that his/her services as a Responsible Pharmacist have been or will be terminated;
- (e) take corrective measures in respect of deficiencies with regard to inspection reports of Council or in terms of the Medicines Act; and in addition to the general responsibilities, also:
 - (i) ensure that unauthorised persons cannot by lawful means obtain access to medicines or scheduled substances or the pharmacy premises outside of normal trading hours;
 - (ii) establish policies and procedures for the employees of the pharmacy with regard to the acts performed and services provided in the pharmacy;
 - (iii) ensure the safe and effective storage and keeping of medicine or scheduled substances in the pharmacy under his or her direct personal supervision;

- (iv) ensure correct and effective record keeping of the purchase, sale, possession, storage, safekeeping and return of medicines or scheduled substances;
- (v) ensure that the employment details of all pharmacy personnel (pharmacists and pharmacy support personnel) under their supervision are accurate and up to date on the Council register; and
- (vi) ensure that changes are updated within thirty (30) days of any employment change, including resignations, new appointments, or role changes.

2.1.1 Circumstances and conditions under which a Responsible Pharmacist may be absent from their pharmacy.

The following are circumstances and conditions under which a Responsible Pharmacist may be absent from their pharmacy:

2.1.1.1 Circumstances

The Responsible Pharmacist may be absent from their pharmacy, subject to the conditions mentioned in Paragraph 2.1.1.2 hereunder, to—

- (a) fulfil duties and responsibilities as prescribed in terms of the Pharmacy Act (refer to Paragraph 2.1 above);
- (b) undertake the overall management of the pharmacy concerned, which could include but is not limited to the regulation of pharmacy matters, human resources, or matters relating to processes regarding medicines or scheduled substances, including procedures and record-keeping, as well as compliance with relevant labour legislation; and
- (c) provide pharmaceutical services at any other pharmacy or institution as required, provided that such services do not compromise the safety, quality, and direct personal supervision of the pharmacy for which they are registered.

[the remaining provisions of Rule 2.1 remains unchanged]