



School of Pharmacy

# Primary Health Care and Drug Therapy



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# Outlines

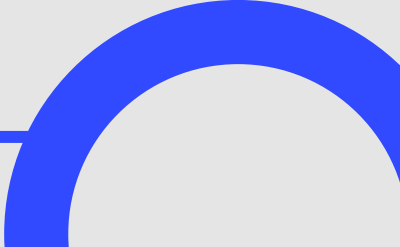
- What is PCDT?
- Section 22A Permit
- PCDT Pharmacist Scope of Practice
- NWU PCDT supplementary course
- Module information -Pharmacotherapy 1
- Module information - Pharmacotherapy 2
- Module information -Applied Pharmacotherapy
- Assessment information
- Applied Pharmacotherapy 200 cases
- Contact information



# What is PCDT

Act 101 of 1965 permits Pharmacists to dispense Schedule 1 and 2 medicines without a prescription. In an effort to expand the scope and impact of pharmaceutical care services provided on Primary Health Care level in a pharmacy, and increase access to Primary Health Care with regards to the treatment of minor ailments and the management of specific chronic diseases, Primary Health Care and drug Therapy (PCDT) supplementary training has been developed. After completion of the postgraduate supplementary training, pharmacists are issued with a permit in terms of Section 22A(15) of the Medicines Act, as amended.

## Section 22 A permit

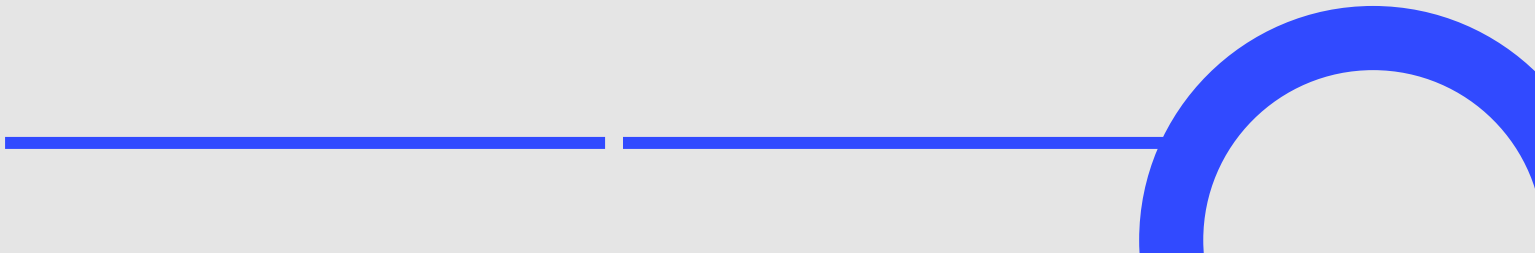
- The Section 22A(15) permits are issued by the National Department of Health (NDoH) together with a list (referred to as the PCDT medicine list (Appendix A)) of conditions
  - The list specifies what the PCDT pharmacist may diagnose and provides a list of medication that the PCDT pharmacist may prescribe and dispense to treat these diagnosed conditions.
  - This PCDT medicine list is in line with the NDoH's latest Primary Health Care Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List (PHC STG & EML).
  - Only pharmacists who have recorded their PCDT supplementary training with the SAPC may apply for the Section 22A(15) permit for PCDT
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## Section 22 A permit

- The PHC STG and EML approved for PCDT pharmacist is condition specific, and not medication specific.
- This means that a Pharmacist may prescribe medication only for certain conditions, notwithstanding the schedule

### Example:

- Prednisone oral may be prescribed for example for only Acute asthma & acute exacerbations of COPD, Gout, acute Rheumatoid Arthritis
- The PCDT pharmacist may only prescribe Prednisone for the above uses



# PCDT Pharmacist Scope of Practice

In addition to the acts and services which form part of the scope of practice of the pharmacist as prescribed in terms of Section 35A of the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974, a PCDT pharmacist may perform a face-to-face consultation with a patient, which includes the following acts and services:

- comprehensive **patient history taking**;
- appropriate **physical examination** (excluding internal and external genitourinary examination);
- conducting and interpretation of applicable **screening tests** (e.g. cholesterol, blood glucose etc.);
- plan safe and appropriate **interventions** and/or prescribing of medicines for the management of potential or existing health needs listed on the PCDT medicine list in accordance to the PHC STG & EML;
- **adjustment of medicine therapy** (in accordance to the PCDT medicine list and PHC STG & EML) which has been prescribed previously by a PCDT pharmacist;
- **management of chronic conditions** (e.g. hypertension, epilepsy and diabetes) which has been diagnosed by a medical practitioner and medicine dose adjustments for these conditions in cases where treatment was initiated by a medical practitioner (in accordance to the PCDT medicine list and PHC STG & EML).
- **monitoring** of the outcomes of therapy; and
- **referral** to another health care provider where necessary.



## Admission Requirements

- B.Pharm
- Completed Com serve
- Registered with SAPC as Pharmacist

## Application

- Application in writing
- ID document/ Passport
- BPharm degree/ Education
- SAPC registration
- Marriage certificate (if applicable)

## Course Layout

- Pharmacotherapy 1 ( 6 months)
- Pharmacotherapy 2 (6 months)
- Applied Pharmacotherapy (1 -2 yrs)

## Timeline

The three modules/courses must be completed consecutively within a minimum of 2 years and a maximum of 3 calendar years.



## Pharmacotherapy 1



### Knowledge

- Human Anatomy
- Processes/Methods of history taking, various screening tests and examination methods
- Interpretation of findings



### Skills

- Discern and distinguish between relevant information which is necessary to concisely document a complete patient history.
- Identify and describe the correct and ethical processes of performing and interpreting various physical examination procedures, screening tests and the assessment of minor ailments in the pharmacy on PHC level.
- Assess patient information theoretically after analysing, evaluating and/or assess various scenarios and patient information and screening test results

## Pharmacotherapy 2



1

### Knowledge

- Extended knowledge regarding a variety of conditions
- Extended pathological, pharmacological, pharmaceutical and microbiological knowledge
- Extended knowledge with regards to safe and effective medication use, preventative measures and lifestyle changes



2

### Skills

- Describe and distinguish between the signs, symptoms and clinical presentation of various conditions of various organ systems and show the ability to identify related diseases
- Create a correct and concise pharmaceutical care plan after analysing, evaluating and criticizing medical case studies and/or prescriptions and/or medical treatment plans and/or patient assessments, containing relevant information, within the scope of practice of a PCDT pharmacist.
- Analyse, evaluate and or/assess patients current treatment plans for efficacy, safety and rationality and construct recommendations regarding the management and/or change in medication therapy.
- Create, construct and/or conceptualise patient information regarding medication use, lifestyle changes and/or other preventative measures.

## Applied Pharmacotherapy



### 1 Knowledge

- All knowledge acquired in Pharmacotherapy 1 and 2
- Provide proof of 200 consultations



### 2 Skills

- Describe and distinguish between various conditions
- Identify related diseases
- Perform and document a complete patient consultation including patient history, screening tests and physical examination
- Identify diseases after analysing and interpreting data obtained from patient history, screening tests and physical examinations
- Create a pharmaceutical care plan within the scope of practice of a PCDT pharmacist to treat or refer a patient
- Analyse, evaluate and or/assess patients current treatment plans for efficacy, safety and rationality and construct recommendations regarding the management and/or change in medication therapy.
- Create, construct and/or conceptualise patient information regarding medication use, lifestyle changes and/or other preventative measures.



# 1

## Pharmacotherapy 1

Assignments

Written examination



# 2

## Pharmacotherapy 2

Assignments

Written examination



# 3

## Applied Pharmacotherapy

- Attending a Workshop on examination skills
- Assignments
- Portfolio of Proof with 200 examination cases
- OSCE (Observed structural Clinical Skill examination)

# Applied Pharmacotherapy - 200 cases

- Compilation of a portfolio (containing at least 200 health examinations on a PCH level) is an integral part of Applied Pharmacotherapy.
- Must include all the conditions listed in the PHC STG & EML (even though some of these conditions are not currently included on the PCDT medicine list).
- Examinations which are clearly out of the scope of a PCDT pharmacist and cannot be performed in the PCDT facility of a pharmacy does not count towards the 200 health examinations
- Examinations can be done at any Health Care Provider who may do PHC consultations
- There are specific guidelines on how the 200 cases should be documented

# Contact Information

- Currently NWU is the only university accredited to provide PCDT supplementary training
- For more information contact:

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Mrs. Corrie Strydom  
Corrie.Strydom@nwu.ac.za

# Thank You

