



Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa PSSA Newsletter #15/2020 – 16 April 2020

The PSSA – pharmacy in action!

Documenting (free) CPDs on everyday events, activities or news

On Monday night, the Minister of Health together with the Ministerial Advisory Group on Covid-19 held a technical public engagement with experts dealing with the pandemic in South Africa. A recording of this event is available on YouTube here. It is worth the watch despite the length.

The chair of the Group, Prof Salim Abdool Karim, received well-rounded acknowledgement on the excellent presentation he presented; for your convenience the PowerPoint presentation can be accessed here and the video of just his presentation section can be accessed here.

Although this news headline sounds every day, there are a significant number of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) learning opportunities included. Ask yourself the following questions:

1. Do you know how and why the Coronavirus epidemic trajectory in South Africa looks unique compared to the rest of the world?
2. What is meant with “three waves” and that it is the “third wave” that we should look out for? Is South Africa experiencing the anticipated third curve currently?
3. Do you know what to anticipate after the extended lockdown? Will South Africa escape the worst of this pandemic?
4. Are you familiar with the eight stages of South Africa’s response to this pandemic? In which stage are we today? Do you know what are some of the major concerns for the country regarding our medical care response?
5. Why is this week (10 to 16 April) considered as so important? What would the average daily cases of this week explain about the future?

If you answered no to any or all of these questions, this could present with a unique learning opportunity which can form part of your six compulsory CPDs for 2020.

There are a number of domains from the Competency Standards for Pharmacists in South Africa to which you could connect this learning event depending on your learning need and approach.

Some examples are:

Domain 1: Public Health

- 1.1 Promotion of health and wellbeing
- 1.5 Epidemic and disaster management

Domain 4: Organisation and management skills

- 4.1 Human resource management
- 4.5 Change management

Domain 5: Professional and personal practice

- 5.1 Patient-centred care
- 5.4 Continuing Professional Development
- 5.6 Decision-making

Domain 6: Education, research and critical analysis
6.2 Provision of education and training

To make documenting your CPD activities easier, the North West Branch of the PSSA developed a CPD template which you can use to capture your learning while doing it, and then when convenient or at a later stage, record the information on the SAPC online CPD platform. This template will assist you through the four phases of the CPD cycle and familiarise you with how to conduct CPDs. By your third CPD you will be a professional in CPD recording and it will come as second nature. Our appreciation to the Executive Committee of the North West Branch for developing this template and making it available to all members of the Society.

How to start:

If you are not sure how to approach this CPD learning activity, follow these easy steps:

1. Determine your learning need by selecting which of the questions listed above you want to learn about. You can use the selected question to formulate your learning title.
2. Link your learning to one of the competency standard domains. You can use one of those listed above or any other domain depending on your learning need and what you want to achieve from this learning activity.
3. Complete step 1 and 2 on the CPD template.
4. Watch the YouTube link and follow the PowerPoint presentation. The full recording is quite long (and is worth the watch), but the video with just the presentation is also available if need be due to time constraints.
5. Complete step 3 and 4 on the CPD template.
6. Save evidence such as the PowerPoint presentation, the completed CPD template and some notes you made during the presentation. Add other evidence as well.
7. Record your CPD activity on the online SAPC system using the information from your CPD template.

For more information on how to record a CPD read the PSSA Perspectives article in your South African Pharmaceutical Journal (SAPJ) Jan/Feb issue for a detailed explanation.

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