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BOARD NOTICE 982 OF 2026

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACY COUNCIL

RULES RELATING TO GOOD PHARMACY PRACTICE

The South African Pharmacy Council intends to publish amendments to the *Rules relating to Good Pharmacy Practice,* which was published on 17 December 2004, Government Gazette No.: 27112, Board Notice 129 of 2004, in terms of Section 35A(b)(ii) of the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974.

Interested parties are invited to submit, within **thirty (30) days** of publication of this notice, substantiated comments on or representations regarding the proposed amendments to the *Rules relating to Good Pharmacy Practice*. Comments must be addressed to the Registrar of the South African Pharmacy Council by way of email: BN@sapc.za.org (for the attention of the Company Secretary and Legal Services).

SCHEDULE

1. **Rule 2.12 Minimum Standards for Pharmacist-Initiated Therapy**
2. **Rule 2.26.5 Professional and Ethical Responsibility of pharmacists in the provision of the EPC**
3. **Rule 2.31.2 Floor Plans**
4. **Rule 2.31.3 Trading title(s)**
5. **Rule 4.2.3.2 Closures of Pharmacies; and**
6. **Rule 4.3.6 Minimum standards for continuous supply of medicines**



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2.12 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PHARMACIST-INITIATED THERAPY

2.12.1.2 The heading of Rule 2.12.1.2 be amended to remove the words "Self-care products, including…", to read as:

2.12.1.2 THE SUPPLY OF SCHEDULE 0, SCHEDULE 1 AND SCHEDULE 2 MEDICINES

Rule 12.1.2(f) is hereby included:

(f) The use of words and signage that refer to self-medication, "over the counter" or "OTC", or words that may imply self-medication is prohibited in pharmacies.

2.26 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR EMERGENCY POSTCOITAL CONTRACEPTION (EPC)

Rule 2.26.5 is hereby repealed and replaced as follows:

PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY OF PHARMACISTS IN THE PROVISION OF EPC

Pharmacists must ensure that the following standards are observed in the supply of EPC as pharmacist-initiated therapy

2.31 INFORMATION RELATING TO COMPLIANCE WITH GOOD PHARMACY PRACTICE TO BE SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE FOR [A] PHARMACY PREMISES TO BE ISSUED IN TERMS OF THE REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE OWNERSHIP AND LICENSING OF PHARMACIES PUBLISHED IN TERMS OF THE PHARMACY ACT, 53 OF 1974, AS AMENDED

2.31.2 FLOOR PLANS

Rule 2.31 is hereby amended to remove the abbreviation "OTC" as it appears in Rule 2.31.2.

RULE 2.31.3 TRADING TITLE(S)

The following paragraph be repealed:

"The following criteria will be applied by Council in considering applications for the use of a title, trading title, name, description, brand name or logo (referred to as the 'name') used with respect to community and institutional pharmacies in terms of Section 35A(c) of the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974."

and be replaced with:

"The following criteria will be applied by Council in considering applications for the use of a title, trading title, name, description, brand name or logo (referred to as the 'name') used with respect to community, institutional, **manufacturing, wholesale and consultant** pharmacies in terms of Section 35A(c) of the Pharmacy Act, 53 of 1974."

4.2 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PHARMACY ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

4.2.3 Ethics and professional standards

Rule 4.2.3.2 is hereby repealed and replaced as follows:

4.2.3.2 Closures of Pharmacies

When a pharmacy is closed, the following information must be made available to members of the public–

(a) contact information directing patients to the nearest emergency healthcare facility where pharmaceutical services or emergency care can be accessed after hours; and

(b) the pharmacy's operating hours, including the opening and closing times.

4.3 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN AN INSTITUTIONAL PHARMACY

Rule 4.3.6 is hereby repealed and replaced as follows:

4.3.6 Minimum standards for continuous supply of medicines

(a) An institutional pharmacy must have a pharmacist available to provide pharmaceutical services to the public on a 24-hour basis.

(b) If a pharmacy is not open on a 24-hour basis, a designated pharmacist(s) must be available for the emergency provision of pharmaceutical services.

(c) Contact details of the pharmacist on duty must be displayed conspicuously at the pharmacy premises.

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