

PCN-LaunchDSI PROJECT

REPORT OF THE ZONAL MEETING OF ENGAGEMENT OF STATE PPMVL COMMITTEE (SOUTH-EAST GEO-POLITICAL ZONE)

Venue: South-East PCN Zonal Office, Enugu State

Date: August 17, 2017

Attendance: (Attached)

1. Preamble

The nationwide zonal engagement meeting with the State-PPMVL committees is a continuation of advocacy/sensitization activities of the phase 1 of PCN-LaunchDSI project. The meeting was organized between the PCN-LaunchDSI team and State PPMVL Committees and the officials of PPMVs associations of the five states of South-East geopolitical zone of Nigeria. The meeting was organized to harvest the views, skills, ideas and experiences on the ways and manners by which the healthcare service delivery can be improved in the patent medicines shops, and also to seek the readiness of the PPMVL committee to support the PCN towards successful implementation of the LaunchDSI project.

The meeting was attended by representative of the Registrar, PCN, Pharm N.A.E Mohammed, members of PCN-LaunchDSI team, Directors of Pharmaceutical Services of Abia and Ebonyi states, representatives of DPS of Imo and Enugu states, Director PCN South-East Zonal Office, PCN state officers of Ebonyi, Enugu, Imo and Anambra, and two officials of PPMVs association from each of the states.

2. Commencement

The meeting commenced with an opening prayer (second stanza of Nigeria's National anthem) at 10:30 am, formal introduction by all the participants followed by adoption of the agenda by the DPS Abia state and seconded by a NAPPMED Chairman Enugu state. The meeting was chaired by the Director South-East Zonal office, (Pharm. J. C Okafor) who stand-in for the Registrar.

3. Opening remarks

The Registrar's opening remarks was delivered by the Director South-East Zonal office, (Pharm. J. C Okafor) on behalf of the Registrar, PCN. He welcomed the participants to the

meeting and thank them for honoring the invitation. He concluded by seeking the cooperation and support of the State PPMVL committees for successful implementation of the project and overall improvement of PPMV operation towards repositioning their operations for the provision of quality, available, accessible and safe medicines in Nigeria.

The opening remarks was followed by presentations as below:

4. Presentation sessions

i. Title: PCN Mission on improving Access to Quality Medicines in Nigeria.

Presenter: Pharm. J. C Okafor

The presentation focused on:

- Background profile of Nigeria
- Background profile of the PCN
- Efforts made by PCN to improve access to quality assured medicines
 - ✓ Community Pharmacies
 - ✓ Patent Medicines Shops
 - ✓ Satellite Pharmacy Concept
 - ✓ Sanitized Medicines Distribution System
- The Challenges facing the efforts to improve access to quality assured medicines
- Areas of support from/Collaboration with Partners
- Conclusion

ii. Title: Overview of PCN-MSH Collaboration: the journey so far.

Presenter: Pharm Ibrahim Jatau Abubakar

Highlights of the presentation include the:

- PCN-MSH collaboration
- Situation analysis on access to medicines in low- and medium-income countries
- Overview of MSH lead Drug Seller Initiatives (DSI) funded by BMGF
- The major programs under the DSI project
- The MSH ADDO Concept
- Objectives of the DSI
- The Tanzania experience
- Success stories
- Overview of LaunchDSI
- Nigeria: Journey so far.

iii. Topic: Highlights of the Activities of the 3-Phased Project for Improved Patent Medicines Vendors' Operation (LaunchDSI Project).

Presenter: Pharm Ibrahim Jatau Abubakar

The highlights of the presentation include:

- The activities under phase I, II and III of the PCN-LaunchDSI project.
- Target objectives of each activity

Tea-Break

Presentations continued

iv. Topic: Report of the Situation Assessment of the Operation of the Patent Medicines Vendors

Presenter: Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed

The outline of the presentation include:

- ✓ Background information
 - Profile of Nigeria
 - History of Patent and Proprietary Medicines Vendors (PPMVs) in Nigeria
 - The Place of the PPMVs in the Healthcare Delivery System
- ✓ Regulatory Mechanisms
 - Registration and Licensing
 - Orientation Programme and Continuing Education Programme
 - Monitoring and Inspection
 - Activities of PPMV Inspection Committees
 - The PCN PPMVL-Sign Post
- ✓ Records of Licensure/Enforcement Activities
- ✓ New Strategies to Re-Positioned PPMV Operations in Nigeria
 - New Partnership for Projects Initiatives
 - Review of Approved Patent Medicines List
 - Partnership/Collaboration with Development/Implementing Partners, NGOs and other Agencies
 - Strengthening Regulation of PPMV Operations.

v. Title: Presentation on Identified Gaps and Emerging Opportunities in the Operation of the PMVs in Nigeria.

Presented by: Pharm. Viona Ologe

The highlights of the presentation include:

- Identified gaps in the operation of PPMVs in Nigeria
- Emerging opportunities identified

5. Commitment of support/participation by the DPSs and NAPPMED officials.

The session was anchored by the DD R&L, PCN, Pharm. Y.R Yohanna. The enlistment of commitment of and support was made by each of the DPS and the NAPPMED official state by state. All the participants expressed their joy, commends the efforts of PCN/MSH collaboration in the repositioning strategies towards an improved PPMV operations in Nigeria and strongly pledged their commitment and buy-in towards the

coming up with the project. All the DPSs reinstate their individual experiences regarding working relationship with NAPPMED and PCN state officers in their states.

6. Key point discussed

- A suggestion that PCN to improve more on publicity regarding its activities and the new project, especially through the electronic media, which is more widely accessible in the country.
- Majority of the participants wish the project to be sustained and also emphasized on the need more trainings and suggest PCN, NDLEA and NAFDAC to come together and be giving a single and unified trainings to avoid duplications of activates.
- Complaints about high cost of tax related to mounting of sign-post as another reason for noncompliance to mounting sign post by the PPMVs.
- There was call for PCN to strengthen and improve on the enforcement activities and to provide a follow-up after the exercise. This will enhance compliance to regulatory activities.
- Need to develop strategies for sustainability of the project.

7. Response by PCN

The D (PRS), PCN responded to some of the issues raised:

- Most of the questions raised were addressed in the presentations
- The PCN has done well in the recent years towards publicity of its activities through the National dailies. And there are plans undergoing to step up the public wider sensitization through radio jingles etc.
- PPMVL should be reporting to PCN on any other agency or NGO planning/approaching them for a training or a program.

8. Closing remarks

The representative of the Registrar, Pharm J.C Okafor thanks all the participants for their words of commitment and comments He added that PCN will look at individual submissions critically and come up with appropriate solutions to most of the challenges

Closing prayer

The meeting ended at 03:000 pm with a closing prayer by all the participants, group photograph and lunch.

Thank You



Ibrahim Jatau A

*SPh (PP). Desk officer PCN-LaunchDSI Project
18/08/2017*





