



## **Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH)**

**COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED AT THE END OF  
2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)  
OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF  
GHANA (PSGH) HELD VIRTUALLY FROM  
15<sup>TH</sup> TO 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

H. E. Nana Addo  
Dankwa Akufo-Addo



PRESIDENT - REPUBLIC OF GHANA

Hon. Kwaku  
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MINISTER OF HEALTH

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PRESIDENT - PHARMACEUTICAL  
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## Introduction

The members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH), being pharmacists, in line with the Constitution of the Society and the directive of the Registrar General, assembled virtually for the first time due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM). The theme for the 2020 AGM was ***“Pharmacy Practice Today: Reaching More People in More Places”***

From Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020; all practice and interest groups of the Society met virtually via Zoom. This included Lady Pharmacists Association of Ghana (LAPAG); Industrial Pharmacists Association (IPA); Academic, Social and Research Pharmacists Association (ASRPA); Community Practice Pharmacists Association (CPPA); Association of Representatives of Ethical Pharmaceutical Companies (AREPI) and Government and Hospital Pharmacists Association (GHOSPA). Executives of the various groups accounted to its members by presenting a report of their activities followed by a presentation on specified topics as part of Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

From Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September, the General Assembly of all pharmacists took place virtually via Zoom every day from 5:00pm to 7:30pm. The event was also broadcasted on online radio. The first day, which was the Leaders’ Dialogue was opened by the PSGH President, Pharm. Benjamin Botwe followed by a moderated session of engagement with pharmacy leaders from the Ministry of Health, Pharmacy Council and Food and Drugs Authority (FDA).



Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> September was the Business Session which involved the presentation of the Governing Board report by the Executive Secretary and the Financial Report for the year 2019 by the Hon. Treasurer after which there was a moderated session involving engagement of the entire membership on various issues. The PSGH Fund and the Young Pharmacists Group of the PSGH (YPG-PSGH) were launched by the PSGH President.

Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September, which was World Pharmacists Day, the AGM was climaxed with a panel discussion on *“Reaching More People in More Places Through Community Pharmacy Practice”*

The AGM ended with a special address by His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana, to all pharmacists.


**The 2020 AGM of Pharmacists held virtually from 15<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2020:**

1. Notes that the COVID-19 pandemic presented a challenge as well as an opportunity for healthcare practitioners to review how healthcare is practised.
2. Commends the Government of HE Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo for the strategic, bold and comforting leadership it has provided in the fight against COVID-19
3. Recognizes that Government cannot fight the COVID-19 pandemic alone and requires support from all to be able to bring the pandemic under control.

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4. Realizes that everyone irrespective of where they are living in the country deserve access to total healthcare including pharmaceutical care and services.
  5. Notes that local pharmaceutical manufacturing industry needs continuous support to be able to increase capacity for Ghana to become a pharmaceutical manufacturing hub in West Africa
  6. Recognizes that the medium to long-term financial security of pharmacists should be of concern to all pharmacists.
  7. Admits that Young pharmacists who make up a significant proportion of the profession need to be guided and also heard in decision making.
  8. Recognizes the need to take advantage of technology to document and standardise pharmacy practice and to extend care to underserved areas
  9. Notes that the scope of pharmacy practice should be expanded to meet the challenges of modern times

**Given the above, the leadership of PSGH and Pharmacists have resolved to:**

1. Continue to perform their functions as front liners in the fight against COVID-19 by providing care, ensuring the supply of essential medicines and educating the general public.
2. Leverage on expansive expertise and increasing number of pharmacists to extend comprehensive




pharmaceutical care to every part of the country through the Model Pharmacy Concept (MPC). Other avenues such as tele-pharmacy and other prospects of Information Technology would be explored.

3. Properly document pharmacist interventions and services in a standardised way to help generate data to inform health policy.
4. Work towards an increase in the proportion of essential medicines that are manufactured locally.
5. Advocate and work towards mortgages for pharmacists working in both public and private sectors
6. Operationalize and contribute to the PSGH Fund to provide financial security to all Pharmacists in the medium to long term.
7. Support the Young Pharmacists Group as an interest group of the PSGH
8. Be ready for expanded scope of pharmacy practice through Continuous Professional Development, and postgraduate training and Specialisation programmes at various accredited institutions.

**The PSGH calls on Government and all stakeholders to:**

1. Look out for strategic ways to fully utilize the expansive knowledge and expertise of pharmacists. As pertains in many countries, the scope of pharmacy practice should be expanded. Pharmacists' medication expertise should be leveraged on in vaccine development and clinical



trials. When the rapid diagnostic tests and vaccine against COVID-19 is finally available and licensed for use, pharmacists should be considered one of the frontline health workers that should be permitted to roll out the tests and provide vaccination services after the requisite training and capacity building has been done.

2. To continue to support and provide incentives for local manufacturing industries to increase the proportion of our essential medicines that are produced locally
3. To support the Ghana College of Pharmacists and pharmacy training institutions to offer subsidized and flexible post graduate and specialization
4. programs that will advance pharmacy practice and research in the country
5. Facilitate the establishment of a National Institute of Pharmaceutical Research and a National Bioequivalence Testing Centre to facilitate research and support local production of generic medicines locally.
6. Support the Model Pharmacy Concept (MPC) to extend pharmaceutical care and services to underserved districts and communities across the country.

## **Conclusion**


The PSGH wishes to extend its most sincere thanks to HE Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo, President of the Republic and Commander in Chief of the Ghana Armed Forces for taking time off his very busy schedule to address Pharmacists during this AGM and launch of the 2020 World Pharmacists Day.

The PSGH believes national development will be accelerated if attention is paid to the pharmaceutical sector to develop professional expertise as well as capacity in care and pharmaceutical production.

*Long Live the Pharmacy Profession!*

*Long Live the PSGH!!*

*Long Live Ghana!!!*



***Pharm. Benjamin Kwame Botwe,  
PRESIDENT***