

APOTHECARY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026 EDITION

Nominations for second Pharma Excellence Awards are **open**

Browse the 26 awards, review the criteria
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Nomination deadline: 25 August 2026

Awards Gala Night: 25 September 2026,
Accra

-Page 24



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PSGH and Ghana AIDS Commission explore expanded role for Pharmacists in National HIV response

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH) has held high-level discussions with the Ghana AIDS Commission (GAC) on how pharmacists and pharmacies can be strategically integrated into Ghana's national response to HIV. The engagement took place during a working visit by a Ghana AIDS Commission delegation to the PSGH Secretariat at Baastona on Thursday, 23 July 2026.

The GAC delegation was led by its Director-General, Dr Kharmacelle Prosper Akanbong, and included the Director of Operations, Mr Charles Oduro, and the Director of Technical Services, Mr Fred Nana Poku. The PSGH was represented by its Executive Secretary, Rev. Dr (Pharm.) Dennis Sena Awitty, and Strategic Plan Manager, Dr (Pharm.) Harry Amoaning Okyere as well as the head of Finance & Accounting, Mr. Eric Forson. The meeting provided an opportunity for the two organisations to consider a structured partnership through which Ghana's extensive network of pharmacists and community pharmacies could support HIV prevention, testing, treatment, adherence and public education.

The discussions are particularly timely as Ghana seeks to accelerate progress towards ending AIDS as a public health threat while addressing continuing challenges relating to undiagnosed infections, treatment access, stigma, misinformation, financing and the sustainability of externally supported programmes.

PSGH ENGAGES GHANA AIDS COMMISSION

— Leveraging Pharmacists and Pharmacies to Strengthen Ghana's HIV Response —

PREVENTION • TESTING • TREATMENT • ACCESS

PSGH and Ghana AIDS Commission explore expanded role for Pharmacists in National HIV response - Cont'd

According to the Ghana AIDS Commission, an estimated 337,435 people were living with HIV in Ghana, while approximately 13,951 new infections occurred in 2025—an average of about 38 new infections every day. Women account for about 65.7 per cent of people living with HIV, while young people aged 15 to 24 contribute approximately 27.5 per cent of new infections.

These figures reinforce the need to extend appropriately regulated HIV services beyond conventional health facilities and closer to the communities where people live, work and seek routine healthcare.

Pharmacies as accessible HIV service points

During the meeting, the PSGH presented proposals demonstrating how pharmacists and pharmacies could complement the work of hospitals, clinics, laboratories, civil-society organisations and community-based HIV programmes.

The Society observed that community pharmacies are among the most accessible points of contact within Ghana's healthcare system. They generally operate for longer hours than many conventional health facilities, do not require appointments and are frequently visited by people seeking medicines, health information and advice.

These characteristics could enable pharmacies to reach people who might not readily attend an HIV clinic because of distance, inconvenience, fear of being identified, stigma or the perception that they are not at risk.

Discussions centred on how pharmacists and community pharmacies could complement existing HIV services by supporting prevention and public education, addressing misinformation and stigma, facilitating HIV testing and referrals, and improving access to PrEP, PEP and antiretroviral therapy.

PSGH and Ghana AIDS Commission explore expanded role for Pharmacists in National HIV response - Cont'd

The parties also explored differentiated service-delivery approaches, including ART refill distribution and “drop-in medicine” models through appropriately trained and accredited pharmacies, recognising their accessibility and potential to bring confidential HIV prevention, treatment and adherence support closer to communities.

Local production of antiretroviral medicines

In line with local pharmaceutical manufacturing as a key pillar of its Strategic Plan, the PSGH advocated for the domestic production of antiretroviral medicines to strengthen medicine security and reduce dependence on imports.

In response, the Ghana AIDS Commission delegation indicated that a coordinated subregional manufacturing strategy was being developed under which participating countries could specialise in selected antiretroviral products based on their capacities and comparative advantages, instead of each country producing the same medicines.

Such coordination could create economies of scale, reduce unnecessary duplication and generate sufficiently large and predictable markets to sustain local manufacturers. Governments could then support uptake through coordinated purchasing and pooled procurement.

The approach is especially relevant in the context of the African Medicines Agency, which is intended to strengthen regulatory cooperation and improve access to safe, effective and quality-assured medical products across the continent. Regulatory harmonisation could make it easier for a medicine approved and manufactured to an acceptable standard in one African country to access markets in other participating countries.

The proposed direction also aligns with the African Pooled Procurement Mechanism being advanced by Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

PSGH and Ghana AIDS Commission explore expanded role for Pharmacists in National HIV response - Cont'd

By aggregating demand across countries, pooled procurement can improve purchasing power, provide manufacturers with more predictable orders, reduce fragmented buying and support greater access to African-produced health products. Africa CDC has identified pooled procurement and local manufacturing as mutually reinforcing components of the continent's health-security and self-reliance agenda.

From proposals to an implementation framework

The meeting ended with a shared recognition that pharmacists and pharmacies represent an underused national resource in the response to HIV. The proposals are expected to inform further consideration by the Ghana AIDS Commission as it develops policies and strategies for the next phase of the national response.

For PSGH, the engagement reflects the Society's broader commitment to positioning pharmacists as essential contributors to primary healthcare and public health—not only as custodians of medicines, but also as educators, screeners, counsellors, referral partners, adherence supporters and trusted healthcare professionals within communities.

The discussions opened an important pathway towards a more decentralised, accessible and people-centred HIV response—one that brings reliable information, prevention tools, testing and treatment support closer to the public while maintaining national standards for quality, confidentiality and patient safety.



Pharmacy leadership takes centre stage as Prof. Christian Agyare is invested as KNUST's 13th Vice-Chancellor



The pharmacy profession recorded another defining moment in Ghana's higher education history as distinguished pharmacist, academic and researcher, Professor Christian Agyare, was formally invested as the 13th Vice-Chancellor of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST). The colourful ceremony, held at the Great Hall of KNUST on Saturday, 1 August 2026, was presided over by the Chancellor of the University and Asantehene, His Majesty Otumfuo Osei Tutu II.

It brought together a distinguished assembly of government officials, traditional rulers, academics, religious leaders, industry executives, alumni, students and representatives of professional bodies.

President John Dramani Mahama was represented by the Chief of Staff, Dr Julius Debrah. Other dignitaries included the Minister for Sports and Recreation, Kofi Adams; the Ashanti Regional Minister, Dr Frank Amoakohene; members of the KNUST Governing Council; senior university officials and representatives of Ghana's corporate and professional sectors.

Pharmacy leadership takes centre stage as Prof. Christian Agyare is invested as KNUST's 13th Vice-Chancellor - Cont'd

Pharmacy fraternity rallies behind one of its own

The occasion was particularly significant for Ghana's pharmaceutical fraternity. Key personalities from pharmaceutical practice, academia and industry were present to celebrate the elevation of one of the profession's most distinguished members.

The pharmacy delegation was led by the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana, Dr Paul Owusu Donkor, PhD, who joined other senior pharmacists, pharmaceutical industry leaders and representatives of professional institutions to witness the historic ceremony.

Their strong presence reflected the collective pride of the profession in Professor Agyare's elevation and affirmed the growing contribution of pharmacists beyond traditional healthcare settings into research, institutional governance, education, industry and national leadership. Professor Agyare is a Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana and the Ghana College of Pharmacists.

In 2025, he was named Academic Pharmacist of the Year at the maiden PSGH Pharma Excellence Awards in recognition of his contribution to pharmaceutical education, scientific research, mentorship and academic leadership. Ahead of the investiture, the PSGH leadership had paid a courtesy call on the then Vice-Chancellor-designate to formally congratulate him and assure him of the profession's support.

During that engagement, Dr Owusu Donkor described the appointment as a source of immense pride for pharmacists in Ghana and beyond. "Your appointment demonstrates what is possible when excellence, hard work, integrity and visionary leadership come together. It is a proud moment not only for KNUST but for pharmacists across Ghana and beyond," the PSGH President stated during the earlier visit. [Read about the PSGH leadership's visit.](#)

Pharmacy leadership takes centre stage as Prof. Christian Agyare is invested as KNUST's 13th Vice-Chancellor - Cont'd

Pharmacist succeeds another pharmacist

Professor Agyare succeeds Professor Rita Akosua Dickson, another distinguished pharmacist and Professor of Pharmacognosy, who became KNUST's first female Vice-Chancellor in 2020. Professor Dickson holds Bachelor of Pharmacy and Master of Pharmacy qualifications from KNUST and a PhD in Pharmacy Research from King's College London.

Her tenure was marked by expansion in research, infrastructure, digital transformation, student support and international partnerships. The succession therefore represents a remarkable continuity of pharmacy leadership at one of Africa's leading science and technology universities.

A pharmacist has handed over the stewardship of KNUST to another pharmacist, an uncommon milestone that highlights the breadth of competencies pharmacists bring to institutional management, scientific advancement and national development.

A call to purposeful leadership

Otumfuo Osei Tutu II charged the new Vice-Chancellor to build upon the foundations laid by his predecessors and advance KNUST's standing in teaching, research, innovation and global competitiveness.

His four-year term runs from 1 August 2026 to 31 July 2030.

For the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana and the wider pharmacy fraternity, the investiture was more than a ceremonial transition. It was a celebration of professional excellence, scientific scholarship and the expanding influence of pharmacists in national life. As Professor Christian Agyare takes responsibility for steering one of Ghana's foremost universities, his journey stands as compelling evidence that the pharmacist's contribution extends far beyond medicines. It reaches into scientific discovery, institutional transformation, human-capital development and the leadership of society itself.



PSGH engages EPA over proposed environmental permit fees for Pharmacies

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH) has intensified its engagement with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) over proposed environmental processing and permit fees for retail and wholesale pharmacies.

A PSGH delegation comprising the Executive Secretary, Rev. Dr. Dennis Sena Awitty, and the Chairperson of the Community Practice Pharmacists Association (CPPA), Dr. (Pharm.) Therestella Obosu Tei-Kwabla, met an EPA team on Thursday, 30 July 2026, to review the proposed charges and seek clarity on the environmental responsibilities that would apply to pharmacies.

The engagement forms part of continuing consultations between the pharmacy profession and the EPA following concerns about the implementation of Ghana's new environmental regulatory framework and its implications for licensed pharmaceutical facilities.

New environmental regulatory framework

Ghana's Environmental Protection Act, 2025 (Act 1124) established the Environmental Protection Authority, replacing the former Environmental Protection Agency and expanding its mandate to regulate and protect the environment.

The legislation consolidated aspects of Ghana's environmental laws and strengthened the Authority's powers in environmental permitting, monitoring, hazardous-waste management and enforcement.

PSGH engages EPA over proposed environmental permit fees for Pharmacies - Cont'd

New environmental regulatory framework

The legislation consolidated aspects of Ghana's environmental laws and strengthened the Authority's powers in environmental permitting, monitoring, hazardous-waste management and enforcement.

In January 2026, the EPA announced a nationwide compliance exercise requiring regulated businesses to regularise their environmental permits. The exercise covered several industries and commercial activities, including pharmaceutical manufacturing, warehouses, shops and offices.

Failure to comply could attract administrative penalties, closure or prosecution under the applicable environmental laws. [Read more about the EPA compliance exercise.](#)

The PSGH and Pharmacy Council subsequently held discussions with the EPA in February 2026 to clarify how the new requirements would apply to pharmacies and to prevent uncoordinated enforcement while consultations were ongoing. The latest meeting therefore represents a further step towards developing a clear and proportionate framework for the pharmacy sector.

EPA classifies pharmacy facilities

At the meeting, the EPA explained that facilities are classified according to an Environmental Impact Assessment scale comprising five levels:

1. Micro
2. Minor
3. Small-scale
4. Medium
5. Large

Under the proposed classification, over-the-counter medicine sellers' shops were placed in the micro category, retail pharmacies in the minor category and wholesale pharmacies in the small-scale category.

PSGH engages EPA over proposed environmental permit fees for Pharmacies - Cont'd

The proposed EPA charges comprise a processing fee and a permit fee, with permits valid for two years.

Facility	Processing fee	Permit fee	Total charge	Validity
OTCMS	GH¢150	GH¢350	GH¢500	Two years
Retail Pharmacy	GH¢500	GH¢1000	GH¢1500	Two years
Wholesale Pharmacy	GH¢2000	GH¢1000	GH¢3000	Two years

PSGH calls for proportionate fees

The PSGH delegation expressed concern that the proposed charges would add another layer of regulatory cost to pharmacy operations. It noted that pharmacies already pay annual business operating fees to the Pharmacy Council, their primary sector regulator, in addition to other statutory charges. The delegation also referred to the applicable licensing charges imposed by the Health Facilities Regulatory Agency and other public bodies.

PSGH accordingly proposed that the EPA charges applicable to pharmacies should not exceed half of the corresponding Pharmacy Council business operating fees. As an alternative, it urged the EPA to reconsider the proposed environmental classifications by placing retail pharmacies in the micro category and wholesale pharmacies in the minor category.

The Society argued that most retail pharmacies operate with a relatively limited environmental footprint compared with industrial, manufacturing and other higher-risk commercial activities.

It maintained that the regulatory approach should distinguish clearly between pharmaceutical manufacturing, which may involve chemicals, industrial emissions and production waste, and retail or wholesale pharmacy operations.

PSGH engages EPA over proposed environmental permit fees for Pharmacies - Cont'd

PSGH calls for proportionate fees

While pharmacies have important environmental responsibilities relating to expired medicines, pharmaceutical waste, sharps, damaged products and safe disposal, the PSGH stressed that fees and compliance requirements should be proportionate to the actual environmental risks posed by each type of facility.

PSGH demands clarity on responsibilities

The delegation also requested a detailed description of the services and regulatory responsibilities the EPA would undertake after collecting the proposed fees. PSGH called on the Authority to clearly outline the inspections and monitoring activities covered by the permit, the environmental standards applicable to retail and wholesale pharmacies, and the requirements for managing expired, damaged or recalled medicines, including pharmaceutical-waste segregation and disposal.

The Society further sought clarification on the frequency of inspections and reporting, the relationship between the EPA's requirements and those already enforced by the Pharmacy Council, Food and Drugs Authority, HeFRA and local authorities, and the measures that would be introduced to prevent duplicated inspections, requirements and charges.

The Society emphasised that pharmacies must receive clear written guidance before the proposed requirements are implemented. This would allow facilities to understand their responsibilities, prepare for compliance and avoid inconsistent interpretation by regional enforcement officers.

Concerns over medicine prices

PSGH further warned that the cumulative effect of regulatory charges could ultimately increase the operating costs of pharmacies and contribute to higher medicine prices.

PSGH engages EPA over proposed environmental permit fees for Pharmacies - Cont'd

Concerns over medicine prices

Community pharmacies already face costs associated with professional supervision, facility licensing, staff, utilities, rent, inventory management, regulatory compliance and the safe handling of medicines. Additional charges are likely to be absorbed into operating expenses and may eventually be passed on to patients.

The Society therefore called for coordination among state regulators to prevent regulatory duplication and ensure that environmental protection objectives are achieved without undermining access to affordable medicines. PSGH stressed that it supports responsible environmental regulation and the safe management of pharmaceutical waste. Its concern, however, is that implementation must be risk-based, clearly defined and sensitive to the role of pharmacies as essential healthcare facilities.

EPA takes concerns under advisement

Responding to the submissions, the EPA explained that its fees are determined independently and are not calculated by reference to the charges imposed by another regulator. The EPA team nevertheless acknowledged the concerns raised by PSGH and indicated that the proposals would be referred to the Authority's management for further consideration. It also agreed to provide detailed information on the responsibilities the EPA would undertake and the environmental obligations expected of regulated pharmacy facilities.

No final resolution on the proposed charges was reached at the meeting. The EPA is expected to revert to the PSGH after its internal review. The PSGH has assured pharmacists that it will continue engaging the EPA, Pharmacy Council and other relevant agencies to secure a regulatory framework that protects the environment while remaining proportionate, transparent and supportive of affordable pharmaceutical care.

Further guidance will be communicated to members when the EPA formally responds to the proposals.



PMAG Day 2026 puts pharmaceutical sovereignty at the heart of Ghana's industrial transformation

The Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Ghana (PMAG) used its flagship PMAG Day 2026 to place local pharmaceutical manufacturing firmly within Ghana's national security and economic transformation agenda, calling for coordinated action to turn the country into a competitive medicines manufacturing hub for West Africa. Held at the Alisa Hotel in Accra on Tuesday, 28 July 2026, the event marked PMAG's 27th

anniversary and brought together representatives of government, regulatory authorities, academia, research institutions, professional bodies, financial institutions, development partners and allied industries. The gathering was organised under the theme, "Advancing Ghana's Pharmaceutical Sovereignty through Innovation, Requisite Skills Mix and Quality Industrial Value Chain for Economic Transformation."

The theme reflected a concern that has become increasingly urgent since the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent global supply disruptions: a country that relies heavily on imported finished medicines, active pharmaceutical ingredients, excipients, packaging materials and production equipment remains vulnerable when international supply chains tighten.

Participants therefore framed pharmaceutical manufacturing not simply as a commercial subsector, but as strategic national infrastructure with consequences for health security, foreign-exchange stability, jobs, technology and resilience.



PMAG Day 2026 puts pharmaceutical sovereignty at the heart of Ghana's industrial transformation - Cont'd

A national platform for a shared industrial ambition

The programme combined high-level addresses, three thematic panel discussions, an exhibition, special awards, business-to-business matchmaking and networking. Fraternal messages from partner organisations reinforced the event's cross-sector character.

The substantive discussions were organised around the three pillars embedded in the theme. The first considered how innovation could advance pharmaceutical sovereignty; the second examined the workforce and skills mix needed for industrial transformation; and the third focused on the quality industrial value chain, including finance, procurement, infrastructure and market access. Contributors were drawn from PMAG, PSGH, government ministries and agencies, regulators, industry associations, research and policy institutions, and the financial sector.

A later business-to-business session created space for manufacturers to engage institutions connected to finance, investment, trade, exports, taxation, environmental compliance and industrial development. Participating and invited institutions included commercial banks, the Development Bank Ghana, Ghana EXIM Bank, the Ghana Infrastructure Investment Fund, the Ghana Free Zones Authority, the Ghana Export Promotion Authority, the AfCFTA ecosystem, the Ghana Revenue Authority and the Environmental Protection Authority.

From medicine supply to strategic national infrastructure

Delivering the principal policy address, Presidential Adviser on the 24-Hour Economy and Accelerated Export Development, Augustus "Goosie" Tanoh, said Ghana must move from being predominantly an importer of medicines to becoming the pharmaceutical manufacturing and innovation hub of West Africa. He argued that the industry should be understood as central to health security, industrialisation, technology transfer, skilled employment, export competitiveness and national resilience.

"Pharmaceutical manufacturing is strategic national infrastructure. It is central to health security, industrialisation, technology transfer, skilled employment, export competitiveness and national resilience."

PMAG Day 2026 puts pharmaceutical sovereignty at the heart of Ghana's industrial transformation - Cont'd

Mr Tanoh said the recently approved Ghana Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Policy had provided a clear national direction: to position Ghana as the leading pharmaceutical manufacturing hub in West Africa, producing affordable, quality medicines while expanding into higher-value products and critical inputs. Ghana's strengths, he noted, include a respected medicines regulator at World Health Organization Maturity Level 3, political stability, access to ECOWAS and AfCFTA markets, experienced manufacturers, capable universities and research institutions, and a growing pool of pharmacists, scientists and engineers.

The challenge, he stressed, is to convert those advantages into sustained industrial competitiveness. That requires Ghana to build an ecosystem rather than concentrate only on individual factories producing tablets and capsules. Priority components include active pharmaceutical ingredients and excipients; pharmaceutical-grade starches, ethanol and industrial chemicals; vials, blister foils, cartons and labels; quality-control laboratories; bioequivalence centres; cold-chain logistics; regulatory science; pharmaceutical engineering; digital manufacturing; and research and innovation.

PSGH's stake in the manufacturing agenda

For PSGH and the wider pharmacy profession, the discussions carried implications far beyond factory output. A stronger local industry can improve the availability of essential medicines, reduce exposure to external supply shocks, create advanced career pathways for pharmacists and support a more integrated continuum linking research, regulation, manufacturing, procurement, distribution and patient care.

The skills discussion was particularly relevant to professional development. As manufacturing becomes more technology-intensive and internationally regulated, pharmacists will need deeper competencies in formulation science, validation, quality systems, regulatory affairs, pharmacovigilance, data analytics, automation, technology transfer and global market requirements.

PMAG Day 2026 puts pharmaceutical sovereignty at the heart of Ghana's industrial transformation - Cont'd

The meeting's emphasis on curriculum reform and sustained academia-industry collaboration therefore offers an opportunity for PSGH, the Ghana College of Pharmacists, universities, the Pharmacy Council and industry to jointly define the future pharmaceutical workforce.

The next test: implementation

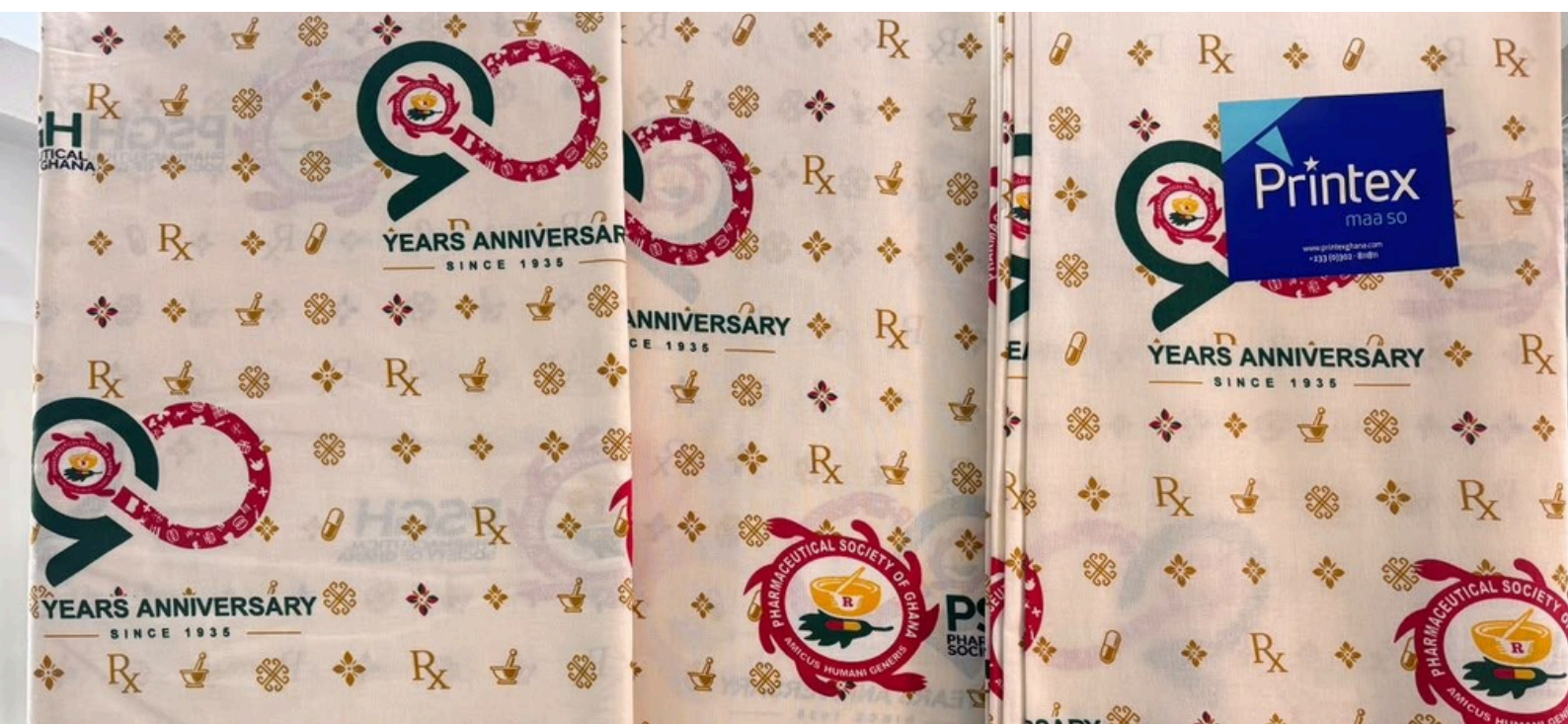
PMAG Day 2026 ended with an ambitious but pragmatic proposition: Ghana already possesses many of the ingredients needed to lead pharmaceutical manufacturing in West Africa, but those assets will not automatically become a competitive industry.

The decisive test will be whether policy commitments are translated into coordinated institutions, financed programmes, predictable procurement, reliable infrastructure, measurable targets and sustained execution. The case advanced in Accra was ultimately about more than replacing imports. It was about using pharmaceutical manufacturing to secure medicine supply, retain scientific and economic value, create quality employment, conserve foreign exchange, deepen technological capability and position Ghanaian firms to serve regional markets.

In that sense, pharmaceutical sovereignty was presented not as isolation from the world, but as the capacity to participate in it from a position of productive strength.



PSGH unveils official 90th anniversary cloth ahead of historic Accra AGM



The Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH) has unveiled its official 90th Anniversary Cloth as part of activities marking nine decades of pharmaceutical excellence, professional service and contribution to Ghana's healthcare development. The commemorative cloth will serve as the **official dress code for the Opening Ceremony of the 2026 PSGH Annual General Meeting**, scheduled for **Wednesday, 23 September 2026**, at the **Great Hall of the University of Ghana, Legon**.

Priced at **GH¢90 per yard**, the fabric gives pharmacists, partners and friends of pharmacy an opportunity to own and wear a visible piece of the Society's history.

Its design incorporates the distinctive PSGH@90 anniversary identity and pharmacy-related symbols, transforming the cloth into more than ceremonial attire, it is a commemorative expression of professional pride, unity and shared heritage. The unveiling comes as PSGH prepares to climax its 90th anniversary celebrations at the 2026 AGM in Accra.

PSGH unveils official 90th anniversary cloth ahead of historic Accra AGM - Cont'd

The conference, taking place at the University of Ghana from **22 to 25 September 2026**, will bring together pharmacists, regulators, policymakers, researchers, industry leaders, students, development partners and other stakeholders under the theme: **“Science. Impact. Legacy.—90 Years of Pharmaceutical Excellence”**

Wearing nine decades of history

The PSGH traces its origins to 19 December 1935, when it was established as the Pharmaceutical Society of the Gold Coast. The Society began with only 26 members and has since developed into Ghana's recognised professional body for pharmacists, with members serving across community practice, hospitals, industry, academia, regulation, research, public health and other specialised fields.

The anniversary cloth consequently represents the long journey of organised pharmacy in Ghana—from the pioneering pharmacists who laid the foundations of the Society to the thousands of professionals now contributing to patient care, medicines access, pharmaceutical manufacturing, research, health policy and national development.

The cloth also reflects the anniversary's three defining ideas: Science, representing the knowledge and competence underpinning pharmacy practice; Impact, recognising the profession's contribution to individuals, communities and the health system; and Legacy, honouring the pioneers of the profession while inspiring present and future generations of pharmacists.

The national 90th anniversary celebrations were formally launched at Akropong-Akuapem in JULY 2026, with a renewed call for ethical, patient-centred practice and stronger integration of pharmacists into primary healthcare. At the launch, PSGH President Pharm.

PSGH unveils official 90th anniversary cloth ahead of historic Accra AGM - Cont'd

Paul Owusu Donkor, PhD, challenged pharmacists to expand their contribution beyond medicine dispensing to disease prevention, health promotion and improved health outcomes. The Accra AGM will serve as the grand climax of these commemorative activities, making the Opening Ceremony an especially significant moment in the Society's history. Wearing the official anniversary cloth will create a colourful display of professional solidarity as pharmacists from different generations, regions and areas of practice gather under one identity.

Members are therefore encouraged to secure their cloth early and make the necessary arrangements for their outfits ahead of the Opening Ceremony.

The official cloth is available at GH¢90 per yard. Orders may be placed by calling or sending a WhatsApp message to 028 824 4387, while members in Accra may purchase directly from the PSGH Secretariat Front Desk at Baastona, Victory Junction, off Spintex Road.

**Don't just
attend history.
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PSGH and SSPMAG deepen collaboration to strengthen Small-Scale Pharmaceutical Manufacturing



The leadership of the Small-Scale Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Ghana (SSPMAG) met with the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH) at the PSGH Secretariat on 23 June 2026 to discuss measures for strengthening small-scale pharmaceutical manufacturing as an integral part of the pharmacy profession and Ghana's healthcare system.

The PSGH delegation was led by its President, Pharm. Paul Owusu Donkor, PhD, and included the Honorary Treasurer, Dr (Pharm.) Anna Naa Kwarley Quartey, PhD; Executive Secretary, Rev. Dr (Pharm.) Dennis Sena Awitty; and Deputy Executive Secretary, Dr (Pharm.) Harry Amoaning Okyere. SSPMAG was led by its Chairman, Pharm. Benjamin Nee Quaye, and Dr (Pharm.) Mark Bekoe, both of whom joined the meeting virtually. Other members of the delegation were Pharm. David Addo, Pharm. Kwame Asante and Pharm. Richard Acheampong.

Discussions focused on sustainable medicine pricing, regulation, quality assurance, capacity building, financing and a stronger working relationship between the two organisations.

PSGH and SSPMAG deepen collaboration to strengthen Small-Scale Pharmaceutical Manufacturing - Cont'd

SSPMAG represents approximately 120 small-scale manufacturers across Ghana, particularly producers of essential over-the-counter medicines. Local pharmaceutical manufacturing is a key pillar of the Society's Strategic Plan and pledged to support SSPMAG in developing a transparent, scientific and equitable pricing framework. Such a framework should reflect sustainable business model without imposing undue financial barriers to patients' access to medicines.

The Society also committed to working with SSPMAG on a broader development strategy covering technical capacity building, access to financing, regulatory compliance and quality assurance. Other measures discussed included sustained advocacy for selected medicines that Ghana has adequate capacity to manufacture to be reserved for local production, as well as preferential procurement of quality-assured locally manufactured products.

These measures are increasingly important as Ghana seeks to reduce its heavy dependence on imported medicines and strengthen national medicine security.

SSPMAG will therefore engage the Food and Drugs Authority and other relevant stakeholders to develop an evidence-based roadmap addressing sustainable pricing, proportionate regulation, quality assurance, market access and the barriers discouraging pharmacists from entering pharmaceutical manufacturing.

SSPMAG further resolved to undertake an intensive membership drive to bring all eligible operators into the Association, strengthen industry representation and promote consistent standards across the small-scale manufacturing sector.

The engagement reaffirmed the shared commitment of PSGH and SSPMAG to building a competitive, quality-driven and sustainable local pharmaceutical industry that supports business growth while improving access to safe, effective and affordable medicines.

Nominations for second Pharma Excellence Awards are open

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH) has officially opened nominations for the second edition of the PSGH Pharma Excellence Awards, inviting the public and members of the pharmaceutical fraternity to nominate deserving individuals, institutions and companies whose work is advancing pharmacy practice, pharmaceutical development and healthcare delivery in Ghana.

Nominations opened on 5 August 2026 and will close on 25 August 2026. The award winners will be announced at the PSGH Pharma Excellence Awards Gala Night on Friday, 25 September 2026, in Accra, as part of the Dinner Banquet of the 2026 PSGH Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference.

The awards form part of the Society's 90th-anniversary celebrations under the theme:

"Science. Impact. Legacy.—90 Years of Pharmaceutical Excellence."

Celebrating excellence across the pharmaceutical sector

The PSGH Pharma Excellence Awards were established to recognise exceptional achievements by individuals and organisations across the pharmacy profession and the wider pharmaceutical sector. The initiative celebrates professional excellence, innovation, ethical leadership, entrepreneurship, research, pharmaceutical manufacturing, regulatory practice and patient-centred care.

The maiden edition, held in 2025, brought together pharmacists, pharmaceutical companies, academic institutions, regulators, policymakers and other healthcare stakeholders.

It recognised outstanding contributions across community and hospital pharmacy, industry, academia, regulatory affairs, research, leadership and pharmaceutical education.

Nominations for second Pharma Excellence Awards are open - Cont'd

Among the institutions recognised at the maiden ceremony was the University of Ghana School of Pharmacy, which received the Prof. A. N. Tackie Excellence in Pharma Award. Other awards honoured distinguished professionals in community practice, hospital pharmacy, industry, regulation, academia, research and corporate leadership. The event demonstrated the depth and diversity of Ghana's pharmaceutical sector and highlighted the contributions of pharmacists and pharmaceutical institutions to national health and development.

Building on that foundation, the second edition has been broadened and strengthened to recognise even more dimensions of excellence and impact.

Twenty-six awards across eight families

The 2026 edition comprises 26 awards organised under eight broad families, with 25 categories open to public nomination. The Lifetime Achievement Award, also known as the Kwabena Ohene-Manu Award, will be selected separately by the PSGH leadership and awards committee.

The categories cover diverse areas of pharmaceutical practice and development, including community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, industrial pharmacy, academia and research, regulatory affairs, pharmaceutical manufacturing, corporate leadership, digital health, innovation, herbal and traditional medicine, and institutional excellence.

Members of the public may nominate a pharmacist, healthcare professional, pharmaceutical company, community pharmacy, academic or health institution, professional stakeholder or another eligible organisation whose work satisfies the criteria for a particular category.

Nominations for second Pharma Excellence Awards are open - Cont'd

Both self-nominations and third-party nominations are permitted, and a nominee may be entered in more than one category where eligible. Each nomination must, however, be tailored to the requirements and assessment criteria of the selected category.

Transparent and evidence-based selection

The 2026 nomination and review system has been designed to promote accessibility, transparency and evidence-based assessment. Nominations will first be reviewed for eligibility, completeness and accuracy. Shortlisted entries will then be independently assessed by a panel of senior professionals using the published criteria for each category.

For the five individual practice awards—Community, Hospital, Industrial, Academic, and Regulatory Affairs Pharmacist of the Year—verified members of the corresponding PSGH practice group will also participate in the selection process.

The practice-group vote will account for 20% of the final score, while the judges' assessment will constitute 80%. Judges are required to disclose and recuse themselves from any conflict of interest. The process also incorporates independent assurance and a tamper-evident audit trail covering submissions, vetting decisions, scores, recusals and authorised corrections. [Review the awards governance arrangements.](#)

How to submit a nomination

Nominations can be submitted online without creating an account or signing up.

Nominations for second Pharma Excellence Awards are open - Cont'd

How to submit a nomination - Cont'd

A complete entry should include:

- A summary of up to 250 words explaining why the nominee deserves the award;
- A detailed write-up of up to 4,000 words addressing the category criteria;
- Relevant supporting evidence, including documents, records, testimonials, photographs, publications or media links; and
- The nominee's correct contact information.

Nominators are encouraged to review the eligibility requirements and required evidence for the selected category before submitting. Claims supported by clear and verifiable evidence will carry considerably more weight than unsupported statements.

The portal also provides an automated quality review to help nominators identify criteria that may not have been adequately addressed or claims that require further evidence. This review is advisory and does not score the nomination or form part of the judging process.

Individuals who are unable to submit through the online portal may organise their nomination materials and seek assistance from the PSGH Secretariat.

Nominate excellence today

PSGH is encouraging pharmacists, healthcare professionals, patients, employers, institutions, industry stakeholders and members of the public to help identify and celebrate the people and organisations making a measurable difference in Ghana's pharmaceutical sector. Do not allow exceptional service, innovation or leadership to go unrecognised.

Nominations for second Pharma Excellence Awards are open - Cont'd

Browse the 26 awards, review the criteria and submit a nomination at: <https://awards.psgh90.com>

Nomination deadline: 25 August 2026

Awards Gala Night: 25 September 2026, Accra



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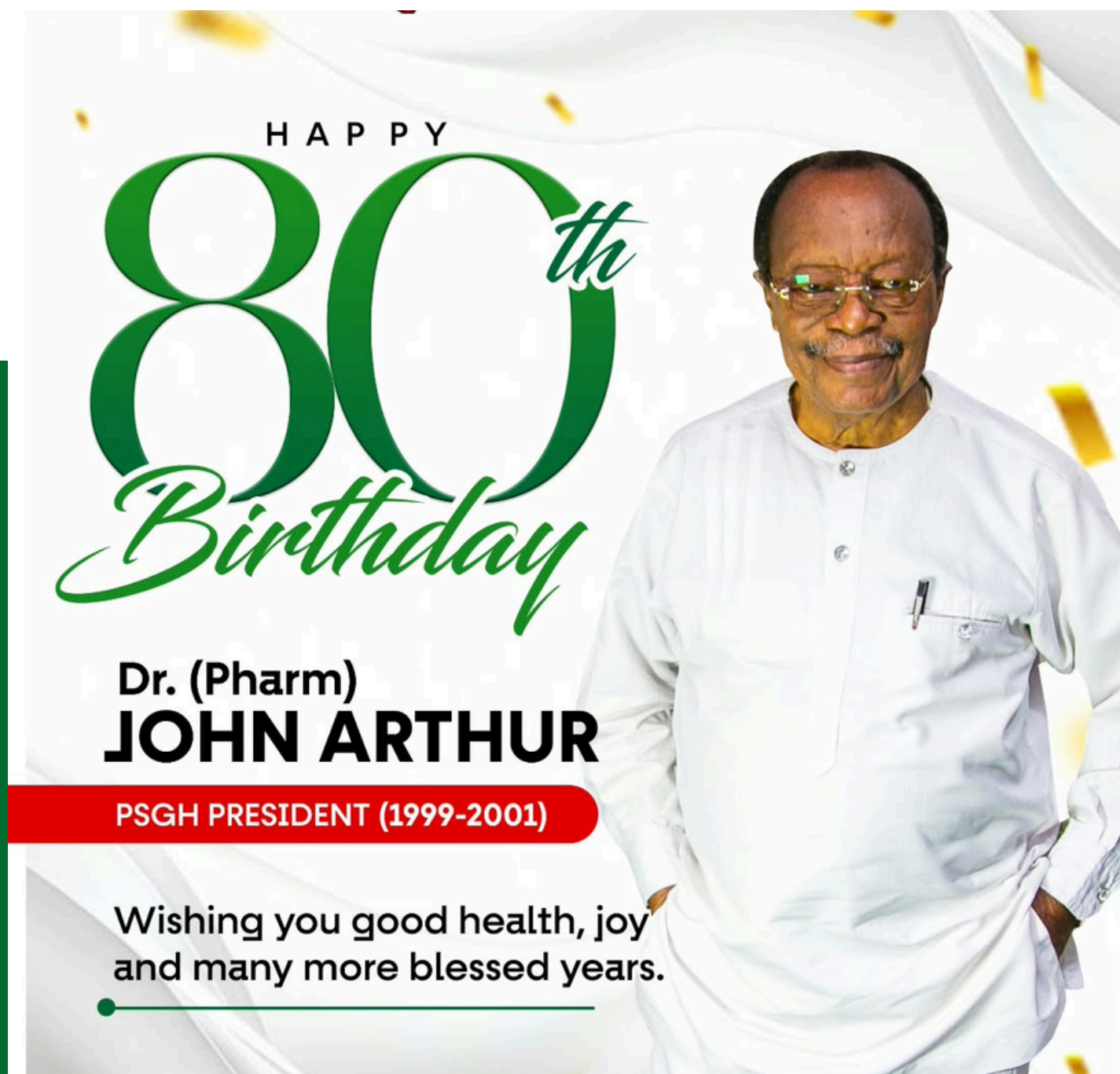
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The President, Governing Board, and entire membership of the PSGH wish Dr. (Pharm.) John Arthur (Fellow and Past President of the PSGH 1999-2001), a happy 80th birthday.

Wishing you good health and many more blessed and fruitful years.



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY!

The President, Governing Board, and entire membership of the PSGH wish Dr. (Pharm.) John Arthur (Fellow and Past President of the PSGH 1999-2001), a happy 80th birthday.



We pause to remember those who have left us

In Memoriam

Prof. Emeritus Kwame Sarpong

Pharmacognosist, Educator and Institution-builder



We honor the memory of members of our Society who have passed on.
Their contributions and the lives they touched will always be remembered...

Ghana's pharmacy fraternity mourns Prof. Emeritus Kwame Sarpong

PSGH pays tribute to distinguished pharmacognosist, educator and institution-builder

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana (PSGH) has announced with profound sorrow the passing of Professor Emeritus Kwame Sarpong, one of the country's most distinguished pharmacy academics and professional leaders. Professor Sarpong passed away on Thursday, 30 July 2026. His death marks the end of an illustrious life devoted to pharmaceutical education, research, professional leadership and the development of institutions that continue to shape pharmacy practice in Ghana and across West Africa.

A Fellow and former President of the PSGH, Professor Sarpong served the Society with distinction and remained a respected senior figure within the profession. His leadership extended well beyond the PSGH, reflecting a lifelong commitment to raising professional standards, developing pharmacists and strengthening pharmaceutical institutions.

Following news of his passing, a high-level delegation led by PSGH President Dr Paul Owusu Donkor, PhD, and including the Registrar and Chairman of the Pharmacy Council, Hon. Joseph Yieleh Chireh and Pharm. Michael Kudebong, together with other senior members of the profession, visited his wife and family to commiserate with them. The delegation conveyed the condolences of the Society and Ghana's wider pharmacy fraternity, acknowledging the enormous loss suffered by the family, the profession and the nation.

A distinguished academic and mentor

Professor Sarpong was an eminent scholar of pharmacognosy—the branch of pharmaceutical science concerned with medicines derived from natural sources, particularly medicinal plants. His career contributed to the development of scientific expertise in natural-product research and the training of generations of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists.

Ghana's pharmacy fraternity mourns Prof. Emeritus Kwame Sarpong

A distinguished academic and mentor

He served as Professor of Pharmacognosy at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and occupied several important academic leadership positions, including Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Provost of the College of Health Sciences.

Across many years in academia, Professor Sarpong helped to educate, mentor and inspire pharmacists who subsequently assumed important roles in universities, hospitals, regulatory institutions, industry, community practice and pharmaceutical research. His influence therefore extended far beyond the lecture hall: it can be seen in the careers of the many professionals he taught and in the institutions they now serve.

Building institutions for specialist pharmacy practice

Professor Sarpong was also instrumental in building professional institutions that created opportunities for the advanced training and specialisation of pharmacists. He was a Fellow and former President of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists (WAPCP), a regional institution responsible for promoting postgraduate pharmaceutical education and specialist pharmacy practice. He was described as one of the College's founding figures and was elected its President in 2017.

His leadership of WAPCP demonstrated his commitment to professional advancement beyond Ghana's borders and contributed to regional collaboration in pharmaceutical education, research and practice. At the national level, Professor Sarpong became the founding President of the Ghana College of Pharmacists. The College's official leadership records show that he served as President from 2012 to 2016, guiding the institution during its formative years. ([Ghana College of Pharmacists](#))

The College was established under the Ghana College of Pharmacists Act, 2011 (Act 833), with a mandate that includes specialist training, continuing professional development,

Ghana's pharmacy fraternity mourns Prof. Emeritus Kwame Sarpong

pharmaceutical research and contributions to national policy on medicines, health and public health. Professor Sarpong's leadership at the beginning of this important institution helped to lay the foundation for a structured system of postgraduate pharmacy specialisation in Ghana.

When the first Governing Council of the College was inaugurated in December 2012, Professor Sarpong was among the pioneering foundation fellows entrusted with turning its statutory mandate into a functioning professional institution.

A legacy across generations

Professor Sarpong's professional life brought together three important dimensions of pharmaceutical development: academic excellence, professional leadership and institution-building.

At KNUST, he contributed to the training of pharmacists and the growth of pharmaceutical science. Through the PSGH, he helped advance the collective interests and public responsibilities of pharmacists in Ghana.

His career also highlighted the strategic importance of pharmacognosy and medicinal-plant research in Ghana. In a country with a rich tradition of plant-based medicine, the scientific evaluation of natural products remains essential to establishing their safety, quality and therapeutic value. Professor Sarpong's work and mentorship helped strengthen the academic foundation upon which current research in herbal medicines and natural-product drug discovery continues to develop.

For many pharmacists, however, his most enduring legacy will be personal. He will be remembered as a teacher, mentor, senior colleague and professional statesman whose contribution can be traced through successive generations of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists.

The PSGH extends its deepest condolences to his wife, children, wider family, former students, colleagues and all who were privileged to know and work with him.

Funeral and memorial arrangements will be communicated by the family in due course.

May the gentle soul of Professor Emeritus Kwame Sarpong rest in perfect peace.

JULY GALLERY



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