

# Grenada Association of Pharmacists -National Report 2011

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## **1.0 THE EXECUTIVE**

In August 2010, a new executive of the Grenada Association of Pharmacists (GAP) was elected to govern for the period 2010 to 2012. This new executive replaced an interim executive headed by the then President Mr. Brian James. The new executive members are as follows:

**President:** Lydia Andrew-Duncan.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Kester Cyrus.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Cameron Alexander.

**Secretary:** Grace James.

**Assistant Secretary:** Jeanesa Robertson.

**Treasurer:** Ellen Gabriel

**Public Relation Officers:** Shirley Modeste-Buckmire and Hazel Mc Ewen

**Floor Members:** Brian James and Thorne Roberts

## **2.0 MEMBERSHIP**

The association currently has a membership of approximately twenty-three (23) members.

## **3.0 REGISTERED PHARMACISTS IN GRENADA**

Currently, there are a total of approximately seventy –five (75) Pharmacists registered in the State of Grenada that includes Carriacou and Petite Martinique.

## **4.0 MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Currently, the Association is in the process of revising its membership fees. Among several others, this remains one of the short term goals of the newly elected executive.

## **5.0 ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST CAP AGM**

Our Activities executed since the last CAP AGM are as follows:

1. **Pharmacy Week** – This was celebrated in the week of June 12 to 18, 2011 and included the following activities:
  - a. Opening address by the Minister of Health
  - b. A Church Service followed by a Family Fun Day
  - c. A Presentation by the Attorney on the Pharmacy Council to GAP members on “The Laws Governing Pharmacy Practice”.
  - d. Public relations Television programmes
  - e. Commonwealth Pharmacy Day public address by the President, and
  - f. Banquet.

## **6.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION SESSIONS**

The association has recognized that continuing education for all Pharmacists is fundamental to the personal and professional growth of all Pharmacists and by extension the industry.

The association coordinated a presentation conducted by Mr. Francis Brunette on Counterfeit Medication and Tips for Conducting a Presentation, earlier on this year as well as a presentation by UltraPharm on its Jameison vitamin product line in relation to the statins.

In addition, the association provided the relevant application forms to Pharmacists for the University of the West Indies BSc Pharmacy programme. This resulted in more than twenty-five (25) Pharmacists registering for the said programme which commences September 2011.

## **7.0 PHARMACY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

The Council is currently looking into increasing the number of Pharmacy Inspectors, amending the Pharmacy Act, regulating the placement of OTCs in Supermarkets and other retail outlets other than Pharmacies. Licence Fees are also being revised for Pharmacists, Pharmacies and Distributors.

## **8.0 PUBLIC EDUCATION**

A sustained public education plan on the practice of pharmacy is yet to be planned. However, during Pharmacy Week in June of 2010, the media conducted interviews on their news programme and the Government Information Service (GIS) replayed past interviews of Pharmacists that sensitized the public on expectations of both Pharmacists and Patients/customers on pharmacy matters.

## **9.0 GOVERNMENT LOBBYING**

Though no proposal has been forwarded to the Government to date, the association has identified areas of the Pharmacy Act that requires alteration in keeping with current pharmaceutical trends and practices and lobbying will commence soon to have same effected.

## **10.0 MAJOR PHARMACY ISSUES IN GRENADA**

There are a few major Pharmacy issues on the island that needs to be urgently addressed. They are as follows:

1. The use of Pharmacy Technicians by some Pharmacies which is not provided for in the legislation governing the Pharmacy practice
2. OTC regulation
3. Pharmacist Wages
4. Composition of Pharmacy Council, which is currently heavily weighted by Medical Doctors.

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## **11.0 STATUS OF TRAINING AND LEVEL OF TRAINING FOR PHARMACISTS**

The only formal training being undertaken at this moment is the three (3) year Associate Degree programme in Pharmacy facilitated by the T.A. Marryshow Community College.

## **12.0 ORGANIZATIONS THAT IMPACT ON THE PRACTICE OF PHARMACY**

There are two (2) other organizations that impact the practice of Pharmacy in Grenada. This range from legislative to operational. They are as follows:

1. Grenada Pharmacy Council
2. Grenada Medical Association

## **13.0 GOALS TO WORK WITH CAP**

The association is currently on a drive to increase CAP membership on the island. This is indeed posing a challenge; however with the relevant public relation on the roles of CAP and its relevance and benefits for the association and its members, I am optimistic we will meet our objective.

## **14.0 HOW CAN CAP ASSIST THE GRENADA ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS**

The following are areas recognized for assistance by CAP going forward:

- In the short term - Assistance with information and guidance on the revision of the Pharmacy Act and the Constitution of our association.

**And**

- Ongoing – assistance with providing and/or accessing continuing education programs

## **15.0 COMMENTS ON CAP ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS IN THE PAST TWELVE 12 MONTHS**

Registered members with CAP have been kept informed on activities of CAP. Some members have expressed interest in having a presence in CAP activities, however in most instances they are constrained by the costs involved.

## **16.0 NUMBER ONE PRIORITY OF THE GRENADA ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS**

Given a number of strategic goals and objectives set out for the appointed period of the newly elected executive, the objective that stands as the number one (1) priority of the association at this time is to increase its membership.

On behalf of the executive and members of the Grenada Association of Pharmacists, we wish to thank CAP's President Basil Scantlebury and his executive team for the support given to Grenada over the last year and wish this year's CAP Conference every success in outcomes that will be fruitful for the regional industry.

President  
Lydia Andrew - Duncan