

SEAM Tanzania

ADDOS: Development of Standards and a Code of Ethics

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A Consultative Process

Appropriate, legally enforceable standards and a code of ethics were developed and approved by the Pharmacy Board* (PB) and Ministry of Health with the assistance of SEAM Tanzania. All ADDO owners and dispensers will be required to have a thorough understanding of these standards and ethics. The ADDO standards and code of ethics were developed with the active involvement of all stakeholders, who were sought out and included through a comprehensive, wide-ranging consultative process. Altogether, nearly 400 people participated, including regional and district medical officers, members of parliament, councilors, and owners of *duka la dawa baridi* (DLDB).

*In January 2003, Pharmacy Board responsibilities were assumed by the Tanzania Food and Drug Authority (TFDA).

Standards

Aspects of ADDO operations covered include—

- Building design and layout
- Personnel
- Application and approvals procedure
- Sanitation and hygiene
- Training and continuing education
- Drug list
 - Primary health care drugs not always available in the public sector
 - Selected lifesaving drugs such as oxytocin and certain IV fluids
- Drug quality
- Stock control and handling
- Record keeping
 - In particular, ADDOs will be required to account for the purchase and sale of all prescription drugs.
- Shop location
- Inspection and sanctions
- ADDO restricted wholesalers



New ADDO (*Duka la Dawa Muhimu*) constructed to meet new ADDO standards

Prescription Drugs Approved for Sale at ADDOs*

- | | |
|---|--|
| ✓ Aminophylline injection | ✓ Metronidazole tablets |
| ✓ Amoxicillin capsules | ✓ Nitrofurantoin tablets |
| ✓ Amoxicillin oral suspension | ✓ Normal saline injection |
| ✓ Bendrofluazide | ✓ Nystatin oral suspension |
| ✓ Benzylpenicillin powder for injection | ✓ Nystatin pessaries |
| ✓ Co-trimoxazole suspension | ✓ Nystatin skin ointment |
| ✓ Co-trimoxazole tablets | ✓ Nystatin tablets |
| ✓ Dextrose 5% | ✓ Oxytetracycline hydrochloride eye ointment |
| ✓ Diclofenac sodium tablets | ✓ Phenoxymethyl penicillin suspension |
| ✓ Doxycycline capsules/tablets | ✓ Phenoxymethyl penicillin tablets |
| ✓ Ergometrine injection | ✓ Phenytoin |
| ✓ Erythromycin oral suspension | ✓ Procaine penicillin fortified |
| ✓ Erythromycin tablets | ✓ Promethazine injection |
| ✓ Ethinylestradiol + levonorgestrel | ✓ Propranolol |
| ✓ Ethinylestradiol + norethisterone | ✓ Quinine injection |
| ✓ Hydrocortisone ointment/cream 1% | ✓ Quinine tablets |
| ✓ Indomethacin capsules | ✓ Silver sulfadiazine cream |
| ✓ Lignocaine injection | ✓ Water for injection |
| ✓ Metronidazole suspension | |

*Approved drugs include primary health care drugs frequently out of stock at public facilities as well as selected lifesaving drugs.

Development Timeline

- August 2002: Twenty workshops held with stakeholders in Ruvuma region to solicit views on what standards should be
- September 2002: Standards and an ethics code drafted by a team of experienced staff from the PB and SEAM as a basis for discussion with a wide range of central and local government and private sector stakeholders
- October 2002: Two-day retreat held in Dar es Salaam to discuss draft standards—participating were district commissioners, PB officials, the regional medical officer, district medical officers, the regional pharmacist, and staff from MSH/SEAM
- October 2002: Draft standards circulated for comment to PB technical committees
- January 2003: Revised draft presented to TFDA for review and comment
- February 2003: Final version given to legal officer for drafting into regulatory form for minister's signature
- May 2003: Standards approved as regulations by the TFDA

Selection of First ADDOs

March 2003—Owners' workshop

- Presented standards, described selection process and broad criteria
- Collected application forms for accreditation completed at meeting

May 2003—Initial inspection

- A designate drug advisory committee (described in the ADDO regulation poster) inspects applicants' shops using the standards checklist.
- Shops meeting the standards will receive the committee's recommendation for accreditation by the TFDA.
- Shops not meeting the standards will receive written notice from the committee of actions they need to take to gain accreditation.

June 2003—Reinspection

- Shops failing the initial inspection are reinspected. Shops meeting requirements at this time will be recommended to the TFDA; those that still fall below standards will not be recommended as ADDOs and will remain DLDB.

Code of Ethics

Statement of Purpose: ADDO owners and dispensers should recognize that ADDOs are providing a valuable health service to their community and that the trust placed in them by members of the community must continue to be earned by ADDOs' providing quality drugs and services to the greatest extent possible. The code of ethics should be incorporated into the daily business practices of owners and sellers.

The Code of Ethics and Conduct covers the following—

- ✓ Honesty and integrity in the course of discharging duties
- ✓ Honor and dignity of the patient
- ✓ Confidentiality
- ✓ Promotion of the rational use of medicines
- ✓ Collaboration with other health care providers to improve patient outcome
- ✓ Responsibility for maintaining competence
- ✓ Adherence to ADDO regulations