

## ESTABLISHMENT OF IPDR

The profession of clinical pharmacy is still in the conception stage. There is much ongoing debate as regards the particular role the clinical pharmacist would play within the healthcare delivery system. At this early stage the value of leadership is incalculable; some agency is necessary to be established to provide the theoretical framework, practical guidelines, and the support to everyone who is interested in this fledgling field of practice. IPDR has been formed to satisfy this need for leadership. Ghana has positioned herself among a few other countries which are championing the development of the clinical pharmacy profession. The schools of pharmacy in this country are making preparations for launching training courses in clinical pharmacy. The formation of the IPDR in this country and at this point in time therefore cannot be a misplacement.

IPDR is the acronym for the Institute of Pharmacopudence and Drugs Research. It has been established under the auspices of the business organization 2M Therapeutics Inc., which latter business organization is based in Kumasi GHANA. The facts and aims of the establishment of IPDR are that:

- ❖ It is a nonprofit research organization
- ❖ It would mobilize resources and facilities for study, research, training, and practice in clinical pharmacy and therapeutics
- ❖ It would operate in partnership with other organizations academic, research and professional both within and outside Ghana
- ❖ Its goal is to be a centre of excellence of international recognition and an authority in healthcare quality assurance
- ❖ It would be a certification and standards authority in advancement of healthcare quality assurance

## Human resource

The administration of IPDR is performed by the staff of 2M Therapeutics Inc as part of its existing administrative structures. However, the actual mandate of the IPDR would be discharged by a team of volunteer healthcare professionals. Such include all the various health professions but notably clinical pharmacists, medical doctors, public health specialists, and health scientists. The volunteers of IPDR, who are termed as *Resource Persons*, are not in the employment of 2M Therapeutics Inc and not paid any salaries. These pursue their own individual professional interests although the primary requirement for admission into the IPDR system is that their pursuits should help the organization actualize the objectives and goals for which it has been established.

Resource persons would have at their disposal the resources and facilities which IPDR would mobilize. As the IPDR system is a kind of professional collaboration the intellectual properties of individual resource persons would be ascribed jointly to them and IPDR and shared within the community of resource persons. A database would be maintained at the offices of 2M Therapeutics Inc to register the names and works of resource persons. A person who seeks admission into the IPDR as a resource person would have to apply in writing to the coordinator at 2M Therapeutics Inc., who would have the reserved prerogative to grant or turn down such applications.

## Publications

IPDR communicates with the public and its community of resource persons by aid of a newsletter and a blog both of which bear the name of "*Pharmacoprudence*". The blog is available on the internet at URL <http://pharmacoprudence.wordpress.com/>. At the present time the newsletter is published in electronic form only; preparations are being made to launch the print format very soon. The electronic newsletter is distributed by means of an electronic list service to which anyone may subscribe.

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