

PHARMACY COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Constituted under the Pharmacy Act, 1948)

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Ref.No.14-218/2013-PCI

2nd May, 2020

To all Examining Authorities, Pharm D and Pharm D (PB) institutions approved by PCI

- u/s 12 of the Pharmacy Act.
- for conduct of course.

Sub: Pharm D internship under Pharm D Regulations 2008 during COVID-19.

Ref: PCI Circular No.14-218/2013-P CI/53121-229 dt.14.1.2015.

Sir/Madam

This has a reference to the subject cited above. In this connection, it is informed that subject cited issue was considered by 326th Executive Committee of the Pharmacy Council of India in its meeting held in April, 2020 which -

- A. noted that Pharm D Regulations 2008 as regard internship inter alia provide as under -
 - 1. 6th year Pharm D, consists of internship or residency training including postings in specialty units (regulation 7)
 - 2. Every student has to undergo one year internship as per Appendix-C of Pharm D Regulations 2008 (regulation 16).
 - 3. Every candidate shall be required, after passing the final Pharm D or Pharm D (Post Baccalaureate) examination as the case may be to undergo compulsory rotational internship to the satisfaction of the college authorities and university concerned for a period of 12 months so as to be eligible for the award of the Degree of Pharm D or Pharm D (Post Baccalaureate) as the case may be (regulation 2)iii) of Appendix-C)
 - 4. "Assessment of internship" under regulation 3 of Appendix-C stipulates as under
 - i) The intern shall maintain a record of work which is to be verified and certified by the preceptor (teacher practioner) under whom he works. Apart from scrutiny of the record of work, assessment and evaluation of training shall be undertaken by an objective approach using situation tests in knowledge, skills and attitude during and at the end of the training.

- B. noted that 96 Central Council (December 2014) decided that internship or residency training not more than 3 months under regulation 7 and 16 read with regulation 2) i) of Appendix-C of Pharm D Regulations, 2008 may be allowed in some other hospital / super specialty of hospital in India or abroad.
- C. It was noted that educational institutions are closed due to COVID-19 pandemic. It is brought to the notice of the council that the students have gone to their hometown/home countries and due to complete lockdown and shutdown of transportation facilities, these students are held up where they are. This is leading to loss of time for such students.
- D. In view of above, in order to remove the difficulties in internship for Pharm D students in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to
 - allow internship in any hospital approved by the PCI within India provided the hospital and Dean/Principal of the Pharm D college where the student is studying, allow the same.
 - Allow internship to a foreign student who has gone to his/her home country, in a super specialty hospital situated in that country subject to
 - approval of the Dean/Principal of the Pharm D college where the student is studying, allows the same.
 - ii. During internship, the intern shall maintain and submit a record of work duly verified and certified by the preceptor under whom s/he underwent internship in the hospital. Based on the record of work and date of evaluation, the Dean or Principal shall issue certificate of satisfactory completion of training, following which the university shall award the degree or declare him/her eligible for it.
 - c) No permission or No Objection Certificate or clearance is required from PCI.
- E. Further the kind attention is also invited to council's advisory with regard to internship vide circular Ref.No.14-56/2019-PCI(A) dated 9th April 2020 as available on council's website, relevant portion of which is quoted below

"The students who are undergoing their internship may be engaged using case based studies /OSCE through remote teaching and where possible to be given credit to the number of days engaged in such structured learning process where they have complied with the provisions made in the Appendix C of the Pharm.D regulations 2008 be given."

It was further decided that above relaxation is only for the internship done during the year 2020 due to COVID -19 pandemic and shall not set a precedence.

This is for information to all concerned.

Yours faithfully

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Registrar-cum-Secretary