



MINISTRY OF HEALTH



POLICY DISSEMINATION BRIEF

Expanding Access and Choice to Family Planning Services in Kenya:

Training Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Technologists in Provision of Quality Integrated FP Services, 2019

Background

Developed in 2019, this training package is a strategic initiative by Kenya's Ministry of Health, developed in collaboration with the Pharmacy and Poisons Board, the Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya, Kenya Pharmaceutical Association and other stakeholders. It aims to equip pharmacists and pharmaceutical technologists with the knowledge and skills to deliver high-quality, integrated family planning (FP) services including provision of injectable contraceptives and referral for long-term contraceptive services. The package supports Kenya's commitment to universal health coverage and reproductive rights as enshrined in Article 43 (1) of the Kenya Constitution 2010.

Objectives

- **Expand access** to FP services through pharmacies channels.
- **Improve quality** of FP counseling and service provision.
- **Integrate FP** into routine pharmaceutical practice.
- **Empower providers** with up-to-date knowledge and skills on provision of Family planning services.

Training Structures

The package includes:

- **Trainer's Manual** – for facilitators to guide sessions.
- **Participant's Manual** – for learners to follow structured content.
- **Participant's Logbook** – for tracking practical experience.

Training Options

- Face to face 5 days training (3 days theory, 2 days practicum).
- Self-paced online training (within 4 weeks).

Training content:

- Introduction to the Course.
- Overview of FP in Kenya.
- Anatomy & Physiology.
- FP Counseling.

- Medical Eligibility Criteria.
- Infection prevention and control.
- Contraceptive Methods.
- Integration and Referrals.
- Documentation, Monitoring & Evaluation.
- Reproductive Health Commodity Management.
- Pharmacovigilance.

Impact and Vision

By training pharmacist and pharmaceutical technologists, Kenya aims to:

- Increase contraceptive prevalence.
- Reduce unmet need for FP.
- Lower fertility rates through voluntary, informed choices.
- Strengthen the health system's responsiveness to reproductive needs.
- Strengthen Total Market Approach strategy.

Role of Trained Pharmacist and Pharmaceutical Technologist

Pharmacies are often the first point of contact for health services in Kenya. This package recognizes their potential to:

- Provide discreet, accessible FP service.
- Educate clients on method options.
- Reduce stigma, especially for youth and marginalized groups.
- Refer clients to appropriate facilities when needed.
- Submit timely service data report.
- Participate in pharmacovigilance.

Training Motivation

Upon successful completion of the training, the trainee will receive;

1. Certificate of completion from Ministry of Health.
2. Accreditation from Ministry of Health.
3. CPD points from professional associations.

