



4th National Symposium for Community Pharmacists in South Africa

The 4th National Symposium for Community Pharmacists (members and non-members) will be held on Saturday 8 June 2019. The venue is still to be confirmed but will most probably be in the Gauteng Province.

In considering a Theme for the Symposium many “transformative” ideas were explored from “the renaissance of community pharmacy” to “being at the crossroads” to “setting the sails” for a new future. However, it was decided to keep it closer to home and to consider words of wisdom by our own leaders which would be applicable to where community pharmacy practice finds itself in healthcare delivery in South Africa.

The theme for the 4th National Symposium for Community Pharmacists in South Africa will thus be: “It always seems impossible until it’s done” ... words spoken by one of our greatest leaders, Mr Nelson Mandela.

The programme will commence with a motivational speaker on the topic “SAACP needs a game plan”. Thereafter, several speakers will explore those suggestions normally regarded in the community pharmacy practice environment as “impossible” to implement. The intention is to close the symposium with a panel discussion (involving pharmacy and other leaders) on lessons learnt, but also to determine whether the “impossible” is in fact “possible” with the right “game plan”.

Please provide us with possible topics, perceived to be “impossible” which could be explored against Mr Mandela’s words of wisdom. The following might be some of them:

- Most screening / monitoring tests for the CCMDD (and similar) programmes being done within pharmacies or from pharmacies through PLDPs at a fee, remunerated by government – impossible?
- Authorised Pharmacist Prescribers allowed to change drug dosage / formulation; renew / extend prescriptions; provide emergency prescription refills; prescribe for minor ailments; order and interpret lab tests, etc. – impossible?
- Expanding the scope of pharmacists in PHC through collaborative non- dispensing services – impossible?
- Pharmacogenomics: Implementation in community pharmacy practice in South Africa – impossible?
- Routine PPPs between community pharmacy and governments / local authorities across the country for the treatment of minor ailments and dispensing of chronic medication (i.e. state patients need not go to the OPDs at public sector hospitals for this anymore) – impossible?
- (Remunerated) new medicine management service in each and every community pharmacy in South Africa – impossible?

Please submit any comments / suggestions to: execdir@saacp.co.za