



SAPC e-Note



Dear Responsible Pharmacist/Owner,

SAPC e-Note: PHARMACY INSPECTION CYCLE

The South African Pharmacy Council (hereafter “Council”) has received numerous requests to review the inspection cycle to mitigate scenarios where some Grade A pharmacies receive accreditation for a period less than three (3) years due to their month of inspection.

Council deliberated this matter during its sitting of 27-28 July 2022 and, after considering various factors, resolved to sustain the current inspection cycles.

In terms of the [Pharmacy Inspection and Guide to Compliance](#) manual, the frequency of Council inspections (i.e. the inspection cycle) is determined by a pharmacy’s most recent inspection outcomes/classification, as follows:

- (a) a pharmacy will be inspected once every three years if the inspection results are excellent (Grade A), once every two years if the results are good (Grade B), and annually if the results are either satisfactory or poor (Grade C);
- (b) the next inspection will be conducted during the year of expiry of the previous grading, not necessarily at the end of that year; and
- (c) if a pharmacy is inspected during the first half of the year, i.e., between January and June, then the applicable term is calculated from the year in which the inspection is conducted. If a pharmacy is inspected during the second half of the year i.e., between July and December, the applicable term is calculated from the following year.

Yours faithfully,

VM Tlala
Registrar/CEO

Accessible quality pharmaceutical services for all