**MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MAKURDI.**

**DIRECTORATE OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES**

**Functions :**

Vision- Provision of quality health commodities and services that are affordable, accessible and available to all facilities and clients towards Universal health coverage in Benue State.

Mission- Coordination of all pharmaceutical issues and policies in the State. The department acts as the hub of pharmaceutical management activities of the Ministry of Health and Human Services of Benue State.

Fulcrum of training and capacity building on the procurement and supply chain management activities

Active member of the Monitoring and Supportive Supervision (MSV) Team of the ministry’s integrated Supportive Supervision (ISS) Team; the Integrated Procurement and Supply Chain Technical Working Group; the State AIDs and Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Program (SASCP) and the State Malaria Elimination Program.

Manage the Central Medical Stores (CMS) and take custody of all Health Commodities from Development partners and Government of Benue State from storage, Inventory Management, Distribution as well as Reserve Logistics.

Development of policy of commodity security and protection of donated commodities from pilferage.

**Functions of the Department**

Advises on the formulation, review and execution of policies and programs as they relate to Pharmaceutical services and pharmacy practice.

Coordination of the various units within the Department.

Liaises with relevant national and international Narcotic bodies on the control of narcotic and psychotropic substances.

Collaborates with regulatory agencies related to health, such as Pharmacist Council of Nigeria, National Agencies for Food and Drug Administrative and Control, NDLEA and Standard Organization of Nigeria.

Advises on all matters relating to food, drugs, cosmetics and medical devices.

Provides guide on the overall management of Drug Revolving Fund Scheme (DRFS) in the state

Provides technical support and guidance to operators of Drug Revolving Fund Scheme (DRFS) in the State

Ensures that the Drug Revolving Funds Scheme in the state is well coordinated and integrated with health and other related programs including the Saving One Million Lives Program for Results (SOML) and the SDGs

Ensures community awareness of the DRFS in the state thereby increasing utilization of public facilities.

Monitors and strengthens the procurement and supply Chain Management system of health commodities in the state through the Logistics Management Coordinating Unit.(LMCU)

Activities of the Department

Registration of pharmacist, Pharmacies and Patent Medicine Shops in the State

Routine and incidental inspection of medicine drug outlets as provided for under the poisons and Pharmacist Act, the Dangerous Drugs Act, Food and Drug Decree and other operational legislations.

Monitoring and supportive supervision to public and private facilities on the public Health Commodity supply Chain

Carries out drug quantification and procurement processes and prepares extemporaneous medicament such as mixtures, lotions, ointments, syrups, etc

Provides medicines information and advice to professional staff hospitals, medical institutions and regulatory bodies

Ensures proper storage and issuance of drugs in hospitals, drugs stores and Central Medical Stores and coordinates all activities carried out in the supplies unit.

Takes charge of the record of the receipts, supplies and stocks of dangerous drugs in medical stores.

Developments of briefs necessary for the formulation and update of regulations.

Conduct routine inspection of the disposal of narcotic drugs supplied to the approved health institutions.

Scrutinizes and recommends refund of medical expenses.

Coordinates the Drug Abuse Control Committee and its activities.

Prepares work plan and initiates action towards the regulation of traditional medicine practice in the state.

Coordinates the activities of the Benue State Task Force on Fake and Counterfeit Drugs.

Maintains statistical record of drugs, cosmetics, medical devices etc.

Provide secretariat and logistics support to Drug Review Committee

Updates the register of pharmacist and pharmacies in Benue State annually

Provide oversight function on the Drug Revolving Fund Scheme in all public health facilities in the State to ensure accountability.

Key achievements of the Department of Pharmaceutical Services

Ensure availability of Health Commodities in the State especially the 5 public health programs-Malaria, HIV, family planning, TBL commodities and Neglected Tropical Disease(NTDs) are now available and accessible in the desired quantities in the majority of public and some private health centers so that the people of Benue State can easily access them. This was not the case in the past.

Conducted orientation and Continuous Education Program (CEP) for patient and proprietary Medicine Vendor to improve quality of service for over 800 vendors in the State.

Facilitating the reinvigoration of the Drug Revolving Fund Scheme and establishment of the State Drug Distribution Center (SDDC) as a One-Stop shop to company to ensure availability of quality essential medicine in Benue State health facilities.

Finalization of the Benue State Essential Medicines and Consumables List.

Prevention of expires: Over Twenty-six Million Naira (N26) worth of commodities were prevented from expiring through inter facility transfer thereby preventing overstock and out of stock in benefiting facilities.

Capacity Management of Commodities was carried to improve the knowledge and skills of health workers at this level to enable them perform optimally. LMCU has a pool of master Trainers which the Ministry can rely on without bringing external Trainers.

Management & Maintenance of Logistics Management Coordinating Unit (LMCU): availability of data repository at LMCU has enhanced data visibility at the State level for decision making. This database can also provide the base for quantification of medicines in the State. The Local Government Logistics Management Coordinating (LMCU) was formed and inaugurated in 2017 across all the twenty-three (23) Local Government Areas in the State. The idea behind setting up LMCU is to enhance visibility of supply chain activities at the Local Government level and health facilities for efficient management of commodities at the level.