SECTION 18.
PHARMACY AND PHARMACOTHERAPY

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CONCEPTUAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE FORMATION OF A PROFESSIONAL REGULATION MODEL FOR PHARMACIST

The contemporary development of healthcare systems is characterized by increasing requirements for the quality, accessibility and safety of pharmaceutical services. Under these conditions, the effectiveness of pharmacy practice largely depends on the level of professional regulation and the ability of regulatory systems to ensure professional accountability, ethical conduct and continuous competency development of pharmacists. International experience demonstrates that fragmented and predominantly administrative approaches to pharmacy governance are gradually being replaced by integrated professional regulation systems focused on public protection and competency-based oversight [2; 3].

The formation of a professional regulation model for pharmacists should be based on a combination of institutional, organizational and ethical principles aimed at ensuring sustainable professional governance. Instead, it incorporates continuous professional development, competency assessment, patient-centered standards and transparent accountability mechanisms [4]. One of the most developed approaches to professional regulation is represented by the model implemented by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), which integrates educational standards, registration procedures, professional conduct requirements and quality assurance mechanisms into a unified regulatory framework [5]. The GPhC model demonstrates the transition from traditional bureaucratic regulation toward competency-oriented governance, where professional standards function not only as control instruments but also as mechanisms for professional development and

patient safety enhancement [5]. The conceptual basis of the proposed regulation model is founded on several interrelated principles.

The first principle is the principle of competency-based regulation. Modern pharmacy systems increasingly emphasize professional competencies rather than formal qualification criteria alone. Competency-based approaches allow regulatory institutions to assess pharmacists' readiness for professional practice in dynamic healthcare environments and ensure continuous adaptation to new clinical, technological and organizational challenges [6].

The second principle is professional accountability. The pharmacist's professional activity directly affects patient safety and treatment outcomes. Therefore, regulatory systems must establish transparent mechanisms for monitoring professional conduct, ethical compliance and adherence to professional standards [7].

The third principle is institutional independence. International practice indicates that effective professional regulation requires a certain level of autonomy of regulatory bodies from direct political or commercial influence. Independent professional regulators are generally more capable of maintaining objective quality assurance procedures and implementing evidence-based professional standards [1].

The fourth principle involves continuous professional development (CPD). Rapid scientific and technological progress in pharmacy necessitates lifelong professional learning. Therefore, CPD should be regarded not merely as a formal requirement but as an integral component of professional competence maintenance and quality improvement in pharmaceutical care [8].

The fifth principle concerns patient-centeredness and public protection. Contemporary pharmacy regulation systems increasingly focus on safeguarding public interests rather than protecting professional privileges. In this context, professional standards are developed primarily to ensure patient safety, accessibility of pharmaceutical care and public confidence in healthcare systems [9].

The proposed regulation model also takes into consideration the necessity of balancing regulatory oversight with professional autonomy. Excessive administrative control may limit professional initiative and innovation, whereas insufficient regulation may reduce the effectiveness of quality assurance mechanisms. Therefore, the model should provide a balanced interaction between professional self-regulation and institutional supervision [10]. Consequently, the conceptual framework of the proposed professional regulation model combines competency-based governance, institutional accountability, ethical responsibility, continuous professional development and public-oriented regulation. The integration of these principles creates the foundation for the development of an

adaptive and sustainable professional regulation system in pharmacy practice.

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