

**FINAL REPORT OF THE ACCREDITATION EXERCISE OF THE ARMY TRAINED  
PHYSIOTHERAPY TECHNICIANS IN NIGERIA**

**Date** - 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2008

**Venue-** Medical School, Ojo Cantonment, Lagos

**Members of the accreditation panel:**

- |    |                                    |   |             |
|----|------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. | Prof. G. I. Odia                   | - | Team Leader |
| 2. | Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Okeke-Igbokwe     | - | Member      |
| 3. | Dr. S. R. A. Akinbo                | - | Member      |
| 4. | Mr. J. D. Jogunola - Reg./CEO MRTB | - | Secretary   |
| *  | Col. (Dr.) Pascal Mogbo (rtd.)     | - | Observer    |

The team arrived at the Cantonment at exactly 12.00noon on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2008 for the accreditation exercise.

The team was warmly welcomed by the H.O.D. Physiotherapy - Capt. O. S. Ekwere who led the team to the Director of Studies who in turn led the team to the Deputy Commandant.

There was brief exchange of pleasantries after the introductory session between the team members and the Deputy Commandant/his Lieutenants. The Deputy Commandant apologized on behalf of the Commandant who was unavoidably absent.

The team later proceeded to the Physiotherapy Technician Training School for the accreditation proper.

The exercise started with staff accreditation. Five Physiotherapists were accredited; all are fully licensed by the Board MRTB with each of them holding the current licence of the Board MRTB. The HOD is already doing his master's programme at University of Ibadan (U.I.) in Orthopaedic Physiotherapy. All other lecturers and the HOD are fully qualified to teach in the school.

The team visited the 3 classrooms available for teaching and met students in session. The clinical setting, the Gymnasium and other infrastructural facilities were inspected and the following observations were made.

## OBSERVATION

1. **Lecture rooms**  
Structurally, the lecture rooms are well ventilated, lit and spacious. The floor structure and roofing style are all within normal limits.
2. **Dressing mode**  
The students were well dressed in Army, Police, Navy and Air force uniforms.
3. **Students' lecture notes**  
Random sampling of students lecture notes appears satisfactory.
4. **The gymnasium**  
The Gymnasium is not large enough but adequate for the purpose of demonstration. Equipment in the Gym are fairly ok.
5. **The treatment cubicles**  
The treatment cubicles are well lit and ventilated. Most of the equipment particularly thermal ones are obsolete but functional. Exercise Therapy equipment appear ok both in numbers and types.
6. **H.O.D./staff offices**  
The HOD's office is large enough with modern Technological equipment like computer and electronics contained in it. However, other staff members appear to have been sharing a single office probably because other lecturers do not reside within the premises, they only come to lecture and go.
7. **The time table**  
The school time table for all classes were inspected, the curriculum of study was also inspected. No students' handbooks. Some past question papers and marking schemes were also examined and a number of other academic investigations on modes of examination, nature of examinations etc. were carried out.
8. **Departmental school library**  
There is no departmental library attached to the school but students claim using the general library within the Cantonment.
9. **Admission requirements**  
From few samples taken at random from students in AI, AII & AIII classes, on the average, the students fulfill the minimum entry requirement of 5 credits including English & Mathematics. However, few ones did not have the entry requirements.
10. **Lecture schedules**  
Lecture schedules were looked into for all the classes - AI, AII and AIII and they appear satisfactory.

11. **Laboratory**  
There is no laboratory setting for the demonstration of key experimental procedures such as gait analysis and other related parameters requiring laboratory experimental determination.
12. **Project/ dissertation**  
There are no specific projects/dissertations from any of the classes particularly the final year class. This phenomenon may not be too serious an offence considering the level of operation and the certificate in view.
13. **Practical exposure**  
The students especially the final year students have adequate exposure to a number of clinical cases at the following hospitals viz:
  - Army Reference Hospital, Yaba
  - Military Hospital, Bonny Camp
  - Air Force Military Hospital, Ikeja
  - Naval Hospitalunder direct supervision of qualified Physiotherapists.
14. **External examiners report**  
Because of the diploma nature of the programme being run at the institution and the level of expectation of the practice, not much emphasis is placed on the need for external examiners which presently does not exist. However, the Board MRTB's exams may be taken for external examination.
15. **Board's exam/ certification**  
The students will be expected at their final year to sit for the Board's qualifying exam prior to their final disengagement from the school.  
  
The Board, by the implication of this accreditation exercise is duly bound to issue Board's professional National Diploma certificate to successful graduands.
16. **Board's licence**  
Each graduand is expected to be licensed as a Physiotherapy Technician before going into the practice of the profession under supervision of a qualified/registered Physiotherapist in any hospital setting in Nigeria.
17. **Hospitals**  
The accreditation team visited one of the hospitals used for clinical demonstrations and practice by the students, which is the Army Reference Hospital, Yaba where the following facilities were inspected at the Physiotherapy Department of the hospital.
  - the treatment cubicles
  - the gymnasium
  - equipment and
  - a number of other attributes connected with the training.

These facilities meet the minimum required standard of the Board, MRTB and are therefore adequate and approved for teaching purposes.

## RECOMMENDATION

### 1. **Staff Offices**

The H.O.D.'s office is ok and commendable, but for other members of academic staff, the Team strongly recommends separate offices for the teaching staff or a maximum of 2 staff members to an office.

### 2. **Departmental Library**

There should be an independent Library setting to accommodate Physiotherapy books, journals and other forms of literature to serve as knowledge reservoir for the benefit of both the teachers, the students and others.

### 3. **Admission Requirements**

It was strongly emphasized that ALL candidates admitted for the programme should possess the minimum academic qualification of five (5) credits including English language and Mathematics. This becomes mandatory in order to give the candidates brighter future to develop/grow academically.

### 4. **Board's Exams**

The Board MRTB shall henceforth be fully involved in the vetting, moderating and supervising the final exams leading to the award of certificate qualifying the candidates for registration/licensing by the Board. The Board may in accordance with section 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of the Board's enabling law (Decree 38 of 1988) conduct separate Board Exams for the graduating class before final disengagement from the school.

### 5. **Certificate in View**

The extant 'A1' certificate being issued by the school is only useful for Military consumption and may not be tenable outside the Military circle; the team has therefore approved a World Standard **Professional National Diploma** (PND) Certificate that would be issued by the Board to every graduating student to augment the present 'A1' Military certificate. The PND certificate is registrable with the Board.

### 6. **Licensure**

The team has approved, by virtue of this accreditation exercise a form of licensure to enable the graduands of the school practice their profession as **Physiotherapy Technicians** under supervision of qualified Physiotherapists in any hospital setting (Military and Civilian).

The type of licence in question falls under subsidiary cadre licence in Medical Rehabilitation.

7. **Scheme of Service**

It has been established that the Military has her own standard and grading system for financial remuneration. However, there is an equivalent remuneration in Civil Service under which this cadre falls; i.e. the support/complementary/subsidiary staff which begins with GL 06 and terminates on GL13.

The Military may wish to review the grading for this cadre of staff in line with the National standard.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the fact that the individual assessor scored the programme over 70%, the Board, through the accreditation team hereby grants the school **FULL** accreditation status. The present standard and infrastructural facilities however, should be maintained as the team would revisit the school for re-accreditation after a period of 3years.

Meanwhile, an accreditation certificate (once in life time) and a licence of 3years duration would be issued a week after this report is out.

All graduands should henceforth approach the Board (MRTB) (individually or collectively) to obtain their Licences and certificates and should be prepared to pay the prescribed fees accordingly.

**Congratulations!!!**

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**Prof. G. I. Odia**  
**Team Leader**

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**Mr. J. D. Jogunola**  
**Registrar/CEO**