

# **REPORT ON THE ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION EXERCISE OF THE MEDICAL REHABILITATION THERAPY PROGRAMME OF THE NNAMDI AZIKIWE UNIVERSITY, NNEWI CAMPUS, ANAMBRA STATE ON THE 27TH AND 28TH OF AUGUST, 2008**

## **Preamble/Introduction**

The Board, MRTB's accreditation team made up of Prof. (Mrs.) A. O. Sanya, Prof. Hano Okeke, Dr. S. R. A. Akinbo, Dr. E. B. John & Mr. J. D. Jogunola led by Prof. (Mrs.) A. O. Sanya arrived Nnewi by 6 p. m. on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2008 for the academic accreditation exercise of the Medical Rehabilitation Therapy Programme of the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Nnewi campus, Anambra State.

- The team was warmly received at the Enugu Airport and Nnewi respectively.
- Commencement of the exercise led the team to the Provost's office and the Chief Medical Director's office all at Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital (NAUTH) Nnewi by 10 a. m. on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2008.

## **1.1 Staff Accreditation**

Number of core academic staff members on ground, their qualifications, academic workload, designations and professional registration status with the Board, MRTB were verified. The necessary supporting documents (credentials) were also verified. The departmental/faculty organogram examined.

## **1.2 Physical Facilities**

- 1.2.1 Available numbers of offices for the academic and non-academic staff looked into.
- 1.2.2 Furniture items in each of the offices.
- 1.2.3 Ventilation, illumination and other parameters were also considered.

## **1.3 Laboratory/Practical Room**

- 1.3.1 The capacity of students it can take at a time was looked into.
- 1.3.2 The infrastructural facilities contained were examined; this includes illumination, ventilation and furniture/equipment contained.

## **1.4 Classrooms**

- 1.4.1 Numbers available/sizes.
- 1.4.2 Ventilation/illumination.

- 1.4.3 Available teaching aids like multi-media & overhead projectors.
- 1.4.4 Ergonomics of the chairs/benches for students sitting observed.

## **1.5 Equipment**

Numbers available, quantity, quality and functionality of the equipment were also examined.

## **1.6 Library facilities**

- 1.6.1 Numbers available.
- 1.6.2 Services obtainable such as Internet and access points were examined.
- 1.6.3 Books (relevant to Medical Rehabilitation Therapy Training) and Journals were looked into.

## **1.7 Students Matters**

### 1.7.1 Sites/Locations:

- 1.7.1.1 The basic sciences located at Awka campus while pre-clinical and clinical facilities are located a Nnewi campus.

### 1.7.2 Academic Issues:

- 1.7.2.1 Lecture/Practical & Clinical Time tables were examined.
- 1.7.2.2 Student's handbooks looked into.
- 1.7.2.3 Clinical postings, practical schedules and other related attributes examined.

### 1.7.3 Examinations

- 1.7.3.1 Question papers, answer scripts, marking schemes, external examiner's reports and results were looked into at random.

## **1.8 The Course Curriculum**

Course distribution reflecting course workload per semester, session and level of study examined, this includes the course content and code such as number of credit units.

## **1.9 Pre-clinical Facilities**

Facilities available for the teaching of Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, and Electro-Physics were examined.

## **1.10 Clinical Facilities**

Apart from the core departmental courses, the team examined other supporting courses in Pharmacology, Sociology, Pathology e. t. c.

The qualifications and designations of other faculty academic staff responsible for these courses were also examined. Student's clinical supervision also looked into.

Apart from the clinical supervisors from the academic department; Physiotherapists on the employment list of the hospital made up of two (2) Principal Physiotherapists and six (6) basic Physiotherapists join the ones from the academic department for joint supervision and clinical co-ordination of students.

## **2.0 Observations**

From the above preamble/introduction, the following observations and recommendations could be established.

### **2.1 Staff Audit**

The core professional departmental academic staff members were seven (7) made up of one (1) Senior Lecturer; three (3) Lecturers 1, 1 Assistant lecturer and 2 Adjunct Lecturers. All the lecturers are qualified Physiotherapists and possess current professional practicing licence issued by the MRTB. All of them have their masters but don't have PhD. One of them has few months ahead to defend his PhD programme. While all the others have applied to commence their doctoral programmes (PhD). The academic workload per lecturer appears heavy for each of the lecturer. It is observed that not much research work is going on in the department and the individual academic publications appear scanty probably due to the heavy academic workload.

### **2.2 Physical Facilities**

#### **2.2.1 Office accommodation:**

All academic staff members share offices. The only Senior Lecturer seems not to have a personal office but operates from the HOD's office. All the offices appear crowded and small. The offices are however fairly well furnished and each lecturer has a personal laptop computer. The offices are fairly well illuminated. The departmental secretary's office is very small and choky.

#### **2.2.2 Laboratory/Practical Room**

The laboratory is fairly adequate in size, ventilation, illumination and numbers of equipment.

### 2.2.3 Classrooms

There is one departmental lecture room and three (3) others shared with other departments within the faculty. The furniture items in the classrooms are not ergonomically acceptable. The classrooms are well ventilated; only one overhead projector could be seen as teaching aid. Multi-media projectors were not available.

### 2.2.4 Equipment

Basic equipment for Electrotherapy, exercise therapy and manual therapy, are available in fairly adequate quantity and in functional state. However, nothing is available in Hydrotherapy, Suspension Therapy, Wax Therapy and Cryotherapy.

### 2.2.5 Library Facilities

The library facilities in the college and the faculty are not adequate in currency and holding(s) the access points for e-library are grossly inadequate to cater for the student's population. Problem of internet connectivity is a major issue. The Department does not have a departmental library.

### 2.2.6 Students Matters

2.2.6.1 Student's population – 400 level = 18, 300 level = 27, 200 level = 23, 100 level = 17.

#### 2.2.6.2 Academic Matters

The lecture/practical & clinical time table for students, student's handbooks, practical schedules and other related attributes are adequate.

#### 2.2.6.3 Examinations

Question papers, answer scripts, marking scheme, external examiner's report and results exist and adequate.

### 2.2.7 Curriculum

There is a curriculum of study containing course distribution on basis of semester, sessional and level of study and course content. However, there exists some gray areas that need modification in respect to course

credit system and the issue of carry over/repetition of some specific courses.

#### 2.2.8 Pre-clinical Facilities

Students have adequate exposure to facilities in Anatomy, Physiology, and Biochemistry. The exposure and coaching is very adequate and satisfactory.

#### 2.2.9 Clinical Facilities

There are eight (8) clinical staff members on ground, made up of two (2) Principal Physiotherapists and six (6) Physiotherapists to complement the supervisory role of the academic staff members from the academic department.

All the clinical staff are professionally qualified and possess current professional practicing licence of the Board, MRTB.

Other support staff such as clerical staff wards attendants and cleaners complement the staff profile to enhance the teaching of students.

#### 2.3.0 Space

The available space for the Physiotherapy clinic at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital (NAUTH) is too small and over crowded. Treatment area and staff offices are grossly inadequate.

The equipment available is commensurable with the available space, which is fairly adequate in Electrotherapy and Exercise Therapy, but deficient in the areas of Hydrotherapy, Cryotherapy, Traction, Wax Therapy, Suspension Therapy, e. t. c.

Student's clinical supervision is commendable as it's jointly performed by both the academic and clinical staff members. The co-operation of these two (2) groups is highly commendable and certainly beneficial to student's clinical training.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

#### **3.1 Academic Staff**

3.1.1 The strength of departmental academic staff members is very low/few and the University Management should employ more qualified and registered Physiotherapists to complement this poor

number particularly at the senior level i. e. Senior Lecturers, Associate Professors and Professors.

- 3.1.2 The existing lecturers should be encouraged to pursue their PhD programmes so as to remain relevant in the world of academics.
- 3.1.3 The available lecturers should further be encouraged to increase their research activities and publish their findings.
- 3.1.4 Students admission should be commensurable with the existing ratio of academic staff of (1:10) students and also with the existing facilities on ground.

### **3.2 Physical Facilities**

- 3.2.1 Office accommodation should increase in number and size for conducive academic work.
- 3.2.2 Each lecturer is expected to have a separate office.
- 3.2.3 The University Management is hereby commended for having all lecturers equipped with personal lap top computers.

### **3.3 Classrooms**

- 3.3.1 There is the need to change the chairs and tables in the classrooms to comply with ergonomic standards.
- 3.3.2 There should be multi-media projectors and other teaching aids for effective teaching and learning.

### **3.4 Equipment**

Equipment indicated as for Hydrotherapy, Cryotherapy, Suspension Therapy not available under observation should be acquired.

### **3.5 Library Facilities**

More access points and appropriate staff should be acquired to allow for more students to have adequate exposure to the use of e-library facilities. The department should have a departmental library with minimum of four (4) access points for e-library.

### **3.6 Curriculum**

The accreditation team hereby recommends that the existing curriculum should be reviewed to clarify the ambiguity in such areas of carry over/repetition of

some courses from one level to another, title, course content, e. t. c. should be reviewed.

### **3.7 Clinicals**

- 3.7.1 To allow for adequate students clinical teaching and exposure, qualified academic staff should be appointed consultants to the hospital.
- 3.7.2 A larger clinical space should be provided for the Physiotherapy out-patient clinic to allow for patients care and sound clinical practice for students.
- 3.7.3 The University Management should encourage the teaching hospital management to employ more Senior Physiotherapists from the rank of Chief Physiotherapists and above to allow for adequate coverage of areas of Physiotherapy specialization and training of Physiotherapy interns.

### **4.0 Conclusion**

The management should as a matter of urgency put the necessary machinery on motion to meet the above recommendations very soon.

Meanwhile, the products of the Institution shall be inducted into Physiotherapy profession soon after completion and shall be duly recognized by the Board, MRTB, and would be licenced to practice Physiotherapy profession in Nigeria and abroad.

Accept my congratulations.

Yours faithfully,

**Prof. (Mrs.) A. O. Sanya**  
**Chairperson Accreditation Team**

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