

# AMCOA

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL COUNCILS OF AFRICA



**RESPONSIVE REGULATION**  
**FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES**  
**TOWARDS UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE**

**28<sup>TH</sup>**  
**ANNUAL**  
**CONFERENCE**

**ACCRA, GHANA**

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DEDICATED TO PROTECTING THE PUBLIC AND ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN AFRICA

## Academia and Health Regulation

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# How Can Universities and Health Regulators Partner to Shape Future Regulation?

**AMCOA**

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL COUNCILS OF AFRICA



# Overview

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**Complementary strengths:** Combining academic research and regulatory authority

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**Advancing education:** Updating curricula and co-designing CPD modules

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**Data insights:** Leveraging analytics for policy and workforce planning

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**Innovation sandboxes:** Testing novel health technologies safely before regulating

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**Public engagement:** Building interprofessional standards, trust, and health equity

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# Overview

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**Continental context:** Aligning with global standards and African Medicines Agency initiatives

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**Anticipatory action:** Moving to proactive governance through horizon scanning

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# Complementary Strengths

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## Universities

### **Generate Knowledge & Evidence:**

Conduct rigorous research and evaluate emerging healthcare findings.

**Educate Professionals:** Equip the upcoming workforce with modern clinical and ethical capabilities.

**Foster Innovation:** Test novel tools, strategies, and methodologies in safe environments.



## Health Councils

**Protect the Public:** Ensure safety through robust oversight and professional accountability.

**Set National Standards:** Define criteria for education, ethical practice, and registration.

**Enforce Compliance:** Maintain disciplinary standards and quality assurance systems.

# Advancing Science & Education



## Regulatory Research

Partner to investigate high-impact policy topics including AI diagnostics, telemedicine models, patient safety, and workforce distribution trends.



## Modern Curricula

Update competency frameworks proactively. Embed digital health, genomics, leadership, and ethics into training before gaps appear.



## Strategic CPD

Co-design lifelong learning modules addressing urgent regulatory priorities, ensuring official recognition for registration renewal.



# Research & Regulatory Science

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**Joint research shifts regulation from assumption-based decisions to robust data-driven policy.**

- Evaluating virtual care and telemedicine outcomes.
- Assessing competency-based educational frameworks.
- Analyzing ethics, conduct, and disciplinary trends.
- Informing workforce planning and equity distribution.

# Capacity & Data Insights

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## Build Capacity

Offer postgraduate diplomas, short courses, and fellowships for council members and inspectors in regulatory science and governance.



## Data Analytics

Leverage university analytical expertise to evaluate complaint trends, registration data, and workforce shortages early.



## Policy Reviews

Provide independent expert reviews, literature syntheses, and impact modeling during regulatory policy formulation.



# Innovation Sandboxes

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## Evaluating Technology Safely

Rapid technological advances like AI diagnostic tools, wearable devices, and digital therapeutics outpace static regulatory rules.

By establishing "**Regulatory Sandboxes**", universities and councils evaluate novel care solutions in controlled environments measuring real risks and benefits before establishing formal regulations.



# Teamwork & Public Engagement

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**Interprofessional Regulation:** Study multidisciplinary team dynamics to establish clear standards for shared competencies, role clarification, and safe delegation.

**Public Engagement & Trust:** Conduct patient expectation research and co-host community forums to make governance transparent and patient-centered.

**Healthcare Equity:** Research systemic access barriers to help regulators align standards with public health needs and community equity.

# International Alignment

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## Global Standards & Networks

Universities maintain extensive international research links, while regulators participate in global health oversight bodies.

Collaborating enables benchmarking against global best practices and driving regional harmonization initiatives, such as those led by the **African Medicines Agency (AMA)**.



# Anticipatory Regulation

Transitioning from traditional reactive governance to a proactive, forward-looking regulatory system.

## Key Pillars of Anticipatory Action

- **Horizon Scanning:** Identifying breakthrough medical technologies before widespread adoption.
- **Evidence Synthesis:** Rapidly testing and analyzing emerging clinical data.
- **Workforce Forecasting:** Predicting healthcare needs for systems that do not yet exist.
- **Adaptive Governance:** Co-creating agile regulatory frameworks alongside researchers.

"The future of healthcare regulation will not be written solely in council chambers or lecture halls. It will be co-created through enduring partnerships between regulators, academia, healthcare professionals, and the communities we serve."

— Strategic Vision for Health Regulation



# Questions & Discussion

**Building a future-ready, evidence-based healthcare regulatory system together.**

# Thank You Medaase