



# USAID | DELIVER PROJECT

## Ghana: Pre-Service Training Holds the Key to Better Health Service Delivery



**As part of the practical teaching and learning approach for pre-service training in supply chain management of health commodities, students of the School of Pharmacy at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology examine inventory control cards at a health facility.**

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Students at two schools of pharmacy in Ghana are now learning best practices in the supply chain management (SCM) of health commodities as part of their education. In partnership with the USAID | DELIVER PROJECT (the project) and the Ministry of Health (MOH), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and Central University College (CUC) are including SCM as a certificate program for final-year pharmacy students.

Pre-service training (PST) in SCM teaches the students the highest standards of health logistics before they go into pharmacy jobs across the

country. The availability of drugs and medical supplies is essential to health service delivery; SCM is, therefore, a critical component of the students' core competencies.

PST is an effective way to build capacity in SCM of health commodities; students learn the principles and practices of SCM while in school, reducing the need for more expensive in-service training later. In-service training can disrupt service delivery because it takes personnel away from their workplace, and it can be expensive because of allowances and other incentives.

The USAID | DELIVER PROJECT provided training for lecturers at the schools of pharmacy, donated teaching and learning materials to introduce the program, and is currently providing on-site technical support to monitor and facilitate the teaching and learning process.

To strengthen the human resource capacity for managing health commodities, the project will continue to work with the MOH to expand PST to pharmacy schools in two additional universities and to all MOH institutions that train nurses.

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