REPORT ON ACCREDITATION FOR INTERNSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME – PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT LAUTECH TEACHING HOSPITAL OSOGBO.

The accreditation team led by Prof. A. O. Sanya, the chairperson of the accreditation committee of the Board – The Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (Registration) Board of Nigeria (MRTB), arrived Osogbo the Osun State capital by 11:30am on 20th April 2005 for the accreditation exercise. The accreditation exercise for the Training of Physiotherapy interns commenced with a courtesy call on Prof. Wale Akinsola - the Chief Medical Director of the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology Teaching Hospital (LAUTECH TH) Osogbo. The panel was led by the Head of Department Physiotherapy department of the hospital. The Chief Medical Director (CMD) introduced his lieutenants; the Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, (CMAC) the Director of Administration (DA) and the Chairman of the Hospital Management Board. The team later proceeded to the Physiotherapy department for the accreditation exercise as indicated below:

I. STAFFING/PERSONNEL

Staff strength: There are eight qualified and experienced Physiotherapists in the department all of whom are carrying the current license of the Board (MRTB)– One Assistant Chief Physiotherapist, Two Senior Physiotherapists and Five Physiotherapists.

The Hospital, among other disciplines, has the following key clinical departments suitable for rotational postings for interns.

i. Orthopaedic/Surgery 
ii. Obstetric and Gynecology 
iii. Paediatrics 
iv. Neurology/Medicine

For the purpose of the internship training program, an intern should rotate through the above listed four units which should be headed by at least a Senior Physiotherapist, however from the staff list, only three people are qualified to supervise interns, so the department is short of at least one Senior Physiotherapist, even though the Physiotherapists on ground just meet the minimum requirements.

There should be a clear-cut distinction in terms of personnel duty between Physiotherapy Assistant/Orderly and the Cleaner. Currently the same sets of people perform the same functions. Additional two supporting staffs are
recommended to be deployed to the department and the present ones should stay as Physiotherapy Assistants/Orderlies.

II. SPACING

The Physiotherapy departmental building is located at the heart of the Hospital with the offices, treatment rooms/cubicles well spaced and ventilated. The structure is considered adequate.

III. EQUIPMENT

The following very important equipments are absolutely unavailable:

1. Short Wave Diathermy machine (SWD);
2. Microwave Diathermy Machine;
3. Interferential Therapy Machine;
4. Facilities for hydrotherapy i.e. hydrotherapy tanks/pool
5. Ultraviolet lamp;
6. Hydro collator unit – Hot and cool packs.

The following equipments are available but are grossly inadequate in quantity:

1. TENS – Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve stimulator;
2. Cryotherapy facilities;
3. Wooden treatment stools/tables;
4. Wobble Board;
5. Re-education Board.

Wobble Boards that are available are dangerous for treatment; hence the Board (MRTB) advices that they should be discarded and new ones should be brought to replace them.

The available treatment plinths are too high for the ergonomic safety of both patients and Physiotherapists; therefore the height should be reduced appropriately.

- The Board (MRTB) emphasizes the fact that this Institution being a Teaching Hospital should have minimal equipment for training and research.

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) CONTINUING EDUCATION:

The Board (MRTB) realizes that the Hospital management has not being sponsoring Physiotherapists for continuing Education Programme (CPD) in
the time past. Only one person per annum has been sponsored which is grossly inadequate and the management should know that one of the conditions for annual renewal of license is attendance of at least two continuing Education programmes in a year. The management should be positive in this direction to avoid the staff from being de-registered by the Board and the hospital too from loosing Accreditation.

(b) STAFFING:

There should be more Physiotherapists in the senior cadre i.e. Senior Principal, Assistance Chief, Chief Assistance Director, Deputy Director and Director Physiotherapy services, as provided by the extant scheme of service for the Physiotherapists cadre.

(c) UNAVAILABLE EQUIPMENT:

All the unavailable very important equipment as listed earlier should be made available soonest possible to prevent the hospital from loosing the accreditation, knowing fully well that accreditation and re-accreditation are regular exercises of the Board (MRTB).

(d) INADEQUATE EQUIPMENT:

The inadequate equipment listed earlier should be appreciably improved in quantity and quality.

(e) STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

The management should endeavour to sponsor each staff for at least two continuing education programs in a year.

(f) STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE:

While commending the management on the provision of adequate spacing, the department needs to be maintained by deploying at least two cleaners to the department.

(g) MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT:

For better appreciation of the wholistic approach to patient treatment, Physiotherapists should be encouraged to participate in clinical programmes of other departments for self aggrandizement and man power development e.g. ground rounds, Hospital/departmental seminars etc.
CONCLUSION

(a) PARTIAL ACCREDITATION GRANTED

For standard control and regulation of physiotherapy practice and for the purpose of internship training programme in physiotherapy to commence at Ladoke Akintola University Teaching Hospital, a PARTIAL ACCREDITATION status quo has been granted the department by the Board (MRTB).

(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL ACCREDITATION

The major landmarks and huddles pointed out under the panel’s observations/recommendations above should be addressed by the Hospital management for FULL ACCREDITATION to be granted in future.

(c) DECLARATION

In the interim the Training of Physiotherapy interns could commence by the Hospital with immediate effect based on the PARTIAL ACCREDITATION granted.

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ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE (MRTB)