

APPENDIX 7: SUMMARY OF DATA FOR PHARMACY TECHNICIANS

Country	Year of Data	Legal requirement for certification	Number certified	Training programme/certification
Australia	2004	No	N/A	Dispensary competencies in addition to face to face training
Austria	2003	No	4521	3 years vocational training starting after compulsory school. In Austria there are only pharmaceutical-commercial assistants with vocational training: emphasis is laid on commercial, logistical and trade aspects of pharmacies. They do not have a right to dispense medicinal products. Therefore, they are not comparable with pharmacy technicians elsewhere.
Brazil	2004	No	No	In Brazil, the activity of pharmacy assistants is not regulated
Cameroon	2004	No	50	There is no school for pharmacy technicians in Cameroon but there is an education programme for becoming a pharmacy superior technician
Canada	2004	No	N/A	There is no required training; however a number of community colleges offer pharmacy technician courses that result in receipt of a diploma or certificate. The Pharmacy Technician workforce is poorly documented. Little data is available.
Côte d'Ivoire	2004	Yes	N/A	N/A
Czech Republic	2003	Yes	268	Upper Secondary Paramedical Schools, field of study: Pharmaceutical lab. technician / GC examination (ISCED 3A)
Denmark	2004	N/A	5,000	The entry requirement to the education is a qualifying school-leaving certificates following a minimum of 12 years of primary and secondary schooling. During the 3 years of study, students will attend 7 courses at Pharmakon (in total 20 weeks) followed by examinations. During the periods of apprenticeship, the students follow a distance learning programme with theoretical teaching at the pharmacy
Finland	2004	No	N/A	N/A
France	2002	Yes	33 000	Pharmacy technicians hold a diploma prepared by a 2 year education programme. In some cases (until 2004), it could be obtained by continuous education programme. For more information on the content of the education: http://www.sante.gouv.fr/htm/pointsur/metier_sante/paramedicale/18para.htm
Germany	2004	Yes	53,548	2 years education on a special school for pharmacy technicians, 1/2 year in-the-job training
Ghana	2004	No	N/A	There are plans to legalise registration for technicians/technologists
Hungary	2004	Yes	5400	2-year vocational school after the school-leaving exam (at the age 18). In addition to 13 specialisation is possible after 2 years of practice
Iceland	2004	Yes	330	2,5 years academic and 14 weeks practical work
India	2004	No	N/A	N/A
Indonesia	2004	Yes	N/A	N/A
Iraq	2004	Yes	250	3 years academic and professional study after high school study
Ireland	N/A	No	No	N/A
Israel	2004	Yes	1500	Technicians are not able to dispense medications

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Italy	2004	No	NA	Pharmacy technicians do not exist in Italy. We only have pharmacists with a bachelor (3yr course) or a Master degree (5yrs course). Pharmacists with a bachelor cannot dispense medicines in a pharmacy or in a hospital.
Japan	2004	No	NA	NA
Kenya	2005	Yes	1303	Diploma in pharmaceutical technology. Legislative mechanism has been put in place in 2002.
Madagascar	2004	No	NA	
Malta	2004	Yes	407	NA
Norway	2004	No	3861	3 years of general college with specialisation the last year. There is no legal requirement to be certified to work as a pharmacy technician, but you need a special authorisation based on education and/or working experience to use the specific title (restricted use, as for the title pharmacist)
Portugal	2003	No	3724	
Singapore	2004	No	33	Certified Pharmacy Technician Course
Switzerland	2004	No	420	NA
Taiwan	2004	Yes	7141	A certification examination is required. There are no pharmacy technicians, however, there are associated pharmacist who were high school level. They are allowed to practice pharmacy independently, except for controlled substance. Most of the associated pharmacists can continue to take undergraduate courses in order to be pharmacists. In our country, they are referred as associate pharmacists, instead of pharmacy technicians.
Thailand	2004	No	235	There are many training programmes provided by private and public sectors for the production of pharmacy technicians needed in hospital and community pharmacy settings. Mostly, the programmes were conducted by the agencies that needed and for their own use only. The Ministry of Public Health by Prabaromarajchanok Institute Health Workforce Development has been producing pharmacy technicians under the Certificate in Public Health Program (Pharmacy technician) with 77 credits curriculum to support their hospital setting. Other programs by other institutes are not reported. Again, they are certified by mean of professional certification.
Turkey	2005	No	151	Under a EU project currently
United Kingdom	2005	No	1703	Registration as pharmacy technician – REGPHARMTEC – From work experience and national occupational qualification level III. Launched voluntary registration in 2005
United States	2004	No	About 210,000	None are required - Voluntary - Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB). Some states have a requirement that all technicians be PTCB certified, some have requirements that only some technicians need to be certified if they perform certain duties, other states have a requirement using a variety of ways to become certified, and some states have no requirements of any kind.
Uruguay	2004	Yes	3000-4000	Secondary education (before university) + training course to become either a pharmacy assistant or a specialised pharmacy technical assistant. The training courses for pharmacy assistants must be approved by the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry of Public Health and are provided by several institutions.