Otago Pharmaceutical Student Society (OPSS) Health and Safety Plan

1. Introduction The Otago Pharmaceutical Student Society (OPSS) is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of its members and participants in all club-related activities. This Health and Safety Plan outlines the measures in place to promote a safe environment during events, study groups, social gatherings, and online communication.

2. Responsibilities

- The OPSS executive team is responsible for implementing and monitoring health and safety measures.
- Members are responsible for adhering to safety guidelines and reporting hazards or incidents.
- A designated Health and Safety Officer will oversee safety compliance and risk management.

3. Risk Assessment and Management Given the nature of OPSS activities, potential risks are minimal. However, the following precautions are in place:

3.1 Study Groups and Meetings

- Ensure venues are safe and comply with university regulations.
- Maintain clear walkways and exits.
- Encourage regular breaks to prevent strain and fatigue.

3.2 Social Events (e.g., BYOs, Gatherings)

- Select venues that meet health and safety standards.
- Encourage responsible alcohol consumption in line with university and local laws.
- Have a designated sober contact person for support if needed.
- Ensure first aid resources are available where appropriate.

3.3 Online Communication

- Foster a respectful and inclusive digital environment.
- Report and address any instances of harassment or cyberbullying.
- Follow university policies on appropriate online conduct.

4. Emergency Procedures

- For medical emergencies, call 111 and notify venue staff or university security (0800 479 5000).
- Identify emergency exits and procedures at event locations.
- Maintain a list of emergency contacts, including key university personnel.

5. Incident Reporting

- Any accidents, injuries, or safety concerns should be reported to the Health and Safety Officer.
- Reports should include details of the incident, actions taken, and recommendations to prevent recurrence.

6. Review and Continuous Improvement

- This plan will be reviewed annually by the executive team.
- Feedback from members will be considered to enhance safety measures.

For any health and safety concerns, please contact the OPSS executive team or the designated Health and Safety Officer.