

## **PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR EMERGENCY CARE**

### **PROGRESS ON THE CLINICAL GUIDELINE AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE REVIEW PROCESS**

As part of its statutory mandate, the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) provides clinical guidelines and regulates different scopes of practice for the various health professions registerable in terms of the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974 (as amended). Within the scope of this mandate, the Professional Board for Emergency Care (PBEC) appointed an external service provider during September 2013 in order to assist in the identification, appraisal and subsequent recommendation of updated clinical practice guidelines and scopes of practice.

Due to reasons outside of the Board's control, the provider was not able to deliver on this task. Subsequently, the PBEC put out to tender the development of these clinical guidelines and recommendations related to scopes of practice. The PBEC entered into a contractual agreement with the African Federation for Emergency Medicine in August 2015 to deliver on the terms of the above-mentioned tender. The Board has been monitoring the progress of this project and can report that the evidence-based approach being followed is scientifically sound, rigorous and practical. Close on 1100 existing clinical practice guidelines from around the world were initially identified, with 274 clinical practice guidelines finally being used to form the foundation of the evidence.

The PBEC expects the output of this process by mid-June 2016, after which comments from relevant stakeholders will be sought. Finally, the guidelines will enjoy input and final ratification by the various HPCSA structures. The PBEC understands and acknowledges that there is much anticipation around this process, and therefore the matter is receiving the Board's utmost attention.