
Media Statement

HPCSA CONTINUES TO ARREST BOGUS PRACTITIONERS SELLING SCHEDULED MEDICINE

26 August 2022

For immediate release

Pretoria – The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) is continuing with in its efforts to eradicate unscrupulous bogus healthcare practitioners from operating within our communities.

The HPCSA's Inspectorate Office conducted a joint operation with the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and the South African Police Service (SAPS) in Kabokweni, a town in Ehlanzeni District Municipality, Mpumalanga.

During the operation Ms Sonto L Zikalala was found selling medication and providing medical services to members of the public whilst not registered with Council. She was operating using the name "Mphilo Health Shop" located in Kabokweni. It was established that Ms Zikalala was consulting with members of the public, diagnosing them and prescribing medication to them, which they would then purchase from her health shop. She was selling medicine from schedules 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 to the public.

Ms Zikalala was arrested for contravening the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974 and the Medicines and Related Substances Act, (Act 101 of 1965). She was detained at Kabokweni SAPS under CAS number 204/8/2022.

In another operation, the Inspectorate Office in a joint operation with the Directorate of Priority Crime Investigations (DPCI), South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and the SAPS Local Criminal Record Centre (LCRC).

During the operation Mr Moses Manqoba Gumede was found treating patients and selling scheduled 1,3 and 4 medication to the public whilst not registered with the HPCSA. Mr Gumede was also arrested

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and charged for contravening the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974, as well as the Medicines Act 101 of 1955. He was charged with CAS number 204/08/2022.

The HPCSA is committed to protecting the public and encourages the public to continue to be vigilant of bogus practitioners and report them to the HPCSA as this continues to be a threat to the lives of the innocent public. The public is urged to check if a healthcare practitioner is registered by using the iRegister on the HPCSA website or calling the HPCSA line on 012 338 9100/1 to ensure that they are treated by registered healthcare practitioners.

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About the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)

The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) also known as Council is a statutory body established under the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974. The HPCSA is committed to protecting the public and guiding the professions. The mission of the HPCSA is quality and equitable healthcare for all.

The HPCSA is mandated to regulate the health professions in the country in aspects pertaining to education, training and registration, professional conduct and ethical behaviour, ensuring Continuing Professional Development (CPD), and fostering compliance with healthcare standards.

In order to safeguard the public and guiding the professions, registration in terms of the Act is a prerequisite for practising any of the health professions registrable with Council.

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