

Media Statement

UNREGISTERED LOCUM ARRESTED IN PRETORIA FOR ILLEGALLY PRACTISING

2 November 2023

For immediate release

Pretoria – The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) continues to uphold its mandate of protecting the public by eradicating illegal practices.

The HPCSA's Inspectorate Office conducted an operation at the practice of Dr O Ogunsanwo in Pretoria Central. During the operation, the inspectors found Mr Joseph Nsenda, Congolese citizen practising whilst not registered with Council. It was further established that Mr Nsenda had been practising as a locum for Dr Ogunsanwo since April 2023. He was arrested and detained at Pretoria Central SAPS for contravening Section 17(1), 33,34, and 39 of the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974.

Dr Ogunsanwo is actively registered with the HPCSA, and he will be reported to the Medical and Dental Professions Board for employing an unregistered healthcare practitioner. The HPCSA is once again emphasising the dangers associated with practising whilst not registered with Council as this poses a health risk to the members of the public.

The Inspectorate Office safeguards that unregistered healthcare professionals do not practise and bogus healthcare professionals are investigated, exposed, and criminally charged. Registered healthcare practitioners are encouraged to verify that they employ healthcare practitioners registered with the HPCSA. Members of the public can also confirm a practitioner's status on the HPCSA website under Search the Register or by calling the HPCSA Call Centre on 012 338 9300/1.

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About the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)

Protecting the public and guiding the professions

President: Prof. MS Nmutandani, Vice President: Dr S Sobuwa, Registrar: Dr M Masike, Executive Company Secretariat:
Adv. N Sipeka

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 of education, training and registration, professional conduct, and ethical behaviour, ensuring Continuing Professional Development (CPD), and fostering compliance with healthcare standards.

To safeguard the public and guide 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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