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Media Statement

HPCSA INSPECTIONS LEAD TO ARRESTS IN THE WESTERN CAPE

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Pretoria – The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) in collaboration with law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders, is constantly making progress in combating illegal medical practices by unregistered persons. The latest operation led to multiple arrests of bogus practitioners in the Western Cape.

During an operation at a medical centre in Zwelihle outside Hermanus, it was discovered that Dr Duncan Kaija Samanya, a Kenyan national whose registration with Council expired in 2016, was working as a locum at the practice of Dr Isle Gail Domingo, a registered practitioner. Consequently, Dr Samanya was arrested and held at the Hermanus SAPS for practising without registration with Council.

At Dr Camillah Bayat's practice in Khayelitsha, Miss Andisiwe Mlityalwa was found working as a dental assistant without formal dental or oral hygiene training. She was arrested and detained at Lingelethu West SAPS for practising illegally without proper medical training and not being registered with Council. Miss Mlityalwa is expected to appear in court.

In another medical practice in Khayelitsha, an unregistered individual was apprehended for illegal practice. During an inspection at Dr Maria Joana Kumasamba's medical practice, Ms Kamvidia Falone, a Congolese national, was discovered working as a locum. Ms Falone was arrested and detained by Khayelitsha SAPS for practising illegally without registration.

The arrested bogus practitioners are expected to make their court appearances in due course. Additionally, Dr Bayat, Dr Domingo, and Dr Kumasamba will be reported to the Medical and Dental Board for employing unregistered individuals to work illegally in their medical practices. These incidents underscore the importance of adherence to regulatory standards in medical practices. The Inspectorate Office remains committed to ensuring compliance with these standards to safeguard public health and maintain the integrity of the medical profession.

The public should remain vigilant and report suspicious activities to the HPCSA at <u>InspectorateOffice@hpcsa.co.za</u>. Additionally, the public is urged to verify the registration status of medical practitioners through the "Search the Register" feature on the HPCSA website or by contacting the Call Centre at 012 338 9300/1.

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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 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.

Issued by:

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