

## **PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR EMERGENCY CARE**

The Professional Board for Emergency Care (PBEC) adopted the Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) in August 2018. Together with the broad practice statements embedded within the CPGs, a list of capabilities and medications for the respective professional registration categories was included. The Board communicated the following in relation to the CPGs:

1. The CPGs and related practice statements were adopted in August 2018.
2. Emergency care providers were encouraged to participate in training activities in relation to the CPGs.
3. With regards to additional capabilities and procedures not previously performed by individuals, once an accredited CPG Continuous Professional Development (CPD) activity had been successfully completed, registered persons were able to perform such capabilities and procedures.
4. With regards to additional medications not previously prescribed by individuals, registered persons were encouraged to undertake training activities in relation to these medications. However, use of the medications in clinical practice was not permitted until approval was obtained from the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA).

The PBEC notes Government Notice No. R.1375 as published under Government Gazette No. 44019 of 18 December 2020 ("Government Gazette"). This update to the Schedule of Medicines in-line with the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 1965 (Act No. 101 of 1965) is a welcome development in the final approval of the Schedule of Medicines for emergency care providers.

The PBEC wishes to communicate the following in relation to the Government Gazette No. 44019:

1. Registered persons are hereby permitted to utilise newly introduced medications as indicated in the Government Gazette No. 44019. Importantly, the utilisation of these medications is only permitted once individuals have successfully completed a CPG CPD activity in relation to a particular medication. Registered persons are required to retain proof of such activities.
2. This Schedule of Medicines is in addition (and does not replace) the Schedule of Medicines as indicated in Government Notice No. R.674 as published under Government Gazette No. 36827 of 13 September 2013.

3. Where the Government Gazette refer to a specific professional registration category [i.e. Basic Ambulance Assistant (BAA), Ambulance Emergency Assistant (AEA), Paramedic (ANT), Emergency Care Assistant (ECA), Emergency Care Technician (ECT) and Emergency Care Practitioner (ECP)], the utilisation of the medicine applies to all qualifications leading to registration in that specific category. The PBEC will be engaging with the relevant stakeholders to have the Government Gazette amended to include all qualifications leading to registration in a particular category.
4. The PBEC will engage the relevant stakeholders with regards to specific medications that were omitted from the Government Gazette. Communication regarding this will be distributed once clarity and finality has been obtained.
5. Emergency Medical Service Providers are encouraged to establish adequate consultation networks and record-keeping mechanisms to ensure appropriate medication stewardship and to support emergency care providers.

Yours faithfully



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**DR S SOBUWA**  
**CHAIRPERSON (PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR EMERGENCY CARE)**