

Media Statement

HPCSA CONGRATULATES PROFESSOR STEVEN MATSHIDZA AND HIS TEAM OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS ON THE OPERATION TO CLEAR SURGICAL BACKLOGS

**26 August 2019
For immediate release**

Pretoria – The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) would like to congratulate Professor Steven Matshidza and his Team on the 102 operations conducted this weekend (24 -25 August 2019).

The outreach emanates from a short-term strategy aimed at providing services to patients with no access to private care through an “Orthopaedic Letsema” which was initiated by the MEC for Health in the Limpopo Province, Dr Phophi Ramathuba. These specialists volunteer their weekends to conduct these operations free of charge.

The Team performed operations on patients with various surgical conditions such as; Femur fractures, Hip replacements and other surgical conditions. Professor Mathidza and his Team have since performed more than 700 orthopaedic operations in various public hospitals within the Limpopo province. The number of operations conducted in the various areas are as follows:

- Mokopane and Voortrekker - 25
- Polokwane - 13
- Letaba - 26
- Tshilidzini - 27
- St. Ritas - 11

The HPCSA recognises the exceptional work that is being carried out by the practitioners who give tirelessly to ensure that these services reach the disadvantaged communities. We wish them all the best as they continue to provide better healthcare services to the South African community.

END

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.

Issued on behalf of the HPCSA by:

Daphney Chuma

Head of Division: Corporate Affairs

Health Professions Council of South Africa

Tel: 012 338 9481

Cell: 071 680 8111

Email: daphneyc@hpcsa.co.za