
Media Statement

BOGUS PRACTITIONER ARRESTED IN EKURHULENI

15 November 2019

For immediate release

Pretoria – The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) continues in its effort to protect the public and to eradicate illegal practices.

The HPCSA's Inspectorate Office in collaboration with members of the Gauteng Department of Community Safety and Crime Intelligence Ekurhuleni East Zone conducted a joint operation at the practice of Dr Ogonnaya Orji, situated at 1258 Mandela Drive in Duduza. During the operation, it was discovered that Mr Kumi Daniel, a Ghanaian national was found practising as a medical practitioner whilst not registered with the HPCSA. Mr. Daniel was arrested for being in contravention of Section 17 of the Health Professions Act (Act 54 of 1974) and taken into custody at the Duduza SAPS under CAS no. 71/11/2019.

In terms of the Health Professions Act, it is a criminal offence to practise whilst not registered.

Employing unregistered persons is an unethical conduct by the registered practitioner, as a result, the practitioner is subjected to a disciplinary process for unprofessional conduct.

The risks of bogus practitioners practising whilst not registered with Council are the following:

- The unregistered persons are not trained to practise as practitioners and as result pose a health risk to the members of the public.
- This also tarnishes the image of the professions.
- Unregistered persons do not fall within the HPCSA's jurisdiction and should they conduct themselves unethically, HPCSA cannot implement its processes.

Currently, the HPCSA is conducting public awareness campaigns throughout the country to educate the public on how to identify these bogus practitioners and how to report them to Council.

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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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