
Media Statement

HPCSA ARRESTS THREE BOGUS PRACTITIONERS IN SPRINGS

8 November 2019

For immediate release

Pretoria – The Health Professions Council of South Africa’s (HPCSA) Inspectorate Office continues to uphold its mandate to rid the health profession of bogus practitioners.

The Inspectorate Office in conjunction with the Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department and Springs South African Police Service conducted an operation in Palm Springs Mall where they inspected the practice rooms of Dr Kunumpurathu James Mathew. Upon arrival, the inspectors found three (3) persons at the practice practising as practitioners. Dr Bondo Crispin Muamba (Congolese National) was practising as a medical practitioner, Mr Bendele Oluwagbemiga (Nigerian National) was practising as a Phlebotomy Technician (drawing patient’s blood) and Mr Rija Jose was found dispensing medication from the dispensary at the practice while he is not a medical practitioner or a pharmacist and did not possess a license to dispense medication. When the inspectors checked on the HPCSA register, it was found that none were registered with Council. Dr Mathew is registered with the HPCSA and was not at the practise during the time of inspection.

Dr Muamba and Mr Oluwagbemiga were arrested for contravening Section 17(1)(a) of the Health Professions Act, (Act 56 of 1974), and Mr Jose was also arrested for contravening Section 22A and 22C of the Medicines and Related Substances Act, (Act 101 of 1965). They were all taken into custody and detained at the Springs SAPS CAS No: 145/11/2019.

The HPCSA cautions practitioners to refrain from allowing unregistered person to use their names and operate illegal practises.

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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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