

## Media Statement

### SUSPENSION OF PROFESSOR BEALE

**18 December 2019**

**For immediate release**

**Pretoria** – In October 2019, the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) received information relating to alleged unprofessional conduct on the part of Professor PG Beale. Having received such allegations, the HPCSA conducted formal investigations in terms of Section 41A of the Health Professions Act, 1974. The investigation into the allegations has been concluded. Due to the seriousness of the complaints received, the HPCSA instituted a suspension hearing against Professor Beale.

On 10 December 2019, the Ad Hoc Committee of the Medical and Dental Professional Board ordered that the registration of Professor Beale be suspended with immediate effect from the HPCSA register as a paediatric surgeon in terms of Section 15B(1) (a), pending the adjudication by the Professional Conduct Committee in terms of Chapter (iv) of the Health Professions Act, 1974.

The HPCSA does not have any legislative mandate to conduct criminal investigations, therefore, the current criminal investigations including the arrests of health practitioners falls outside its jurisdiction. The HPCSA as a regulatory body for health practitioners is of the view that any allegations of unprofessional conduct against any of its registered health practitioners should be dealt with in accordance with its ethical rules, norms and standards for practice as well as applicable ethical codes of conduct e.g. the Hippocratic Oath as amended from time to time instead of being dealt with in terms of the criminal justice system.

**END**

## **About the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)**

The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) is a statutory body established in terms of the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974. The HPCSA is committed to protecting the public and guiding the professions and the mission of the HPCSA is quality and equitable healthcare for all.

Council 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 indirectly the professions, registration in terms of the Act is a prerequisite for practising any of the health professions registrable with Council.

---

### **Issued 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](mailto:daphneyc@hpcsa.co.za)**