

MEDIA STATEMENT

BOGUS PRACTITIONER SELLING FAKE MEDICAL CERTIFICATES ARRESTED

19 February 2021

For immediate release

Pretoria – The Inspectorate Office under the ambit of the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA), conducted a sting operation to apprehend a suspected bogus practitioner.

On Wednesday, 17 February 2021, the HPCSA's Inspectorate Office in a joint operation with members of the Crime Intelligence Ekurhuleni East and the Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department (Eastern Region Task Team) conducted a raid after receiving an anonymous tip-off that a bogus practitioner was masquerading as a medical practitioner and selling fraudulent medical certificates in Siyahhlala Section, Langaville. Upon arrival at the premises, Mr Harold Ntshekeng Tloubatla was found to be in possession of medical certificates under the name of Dr TS Mabaso with a fake practice number, address and cellphone number. He was selling the medical certificates for R150. He also indicated that he has been selling these medical certificates to members of the public since 2016.

Mr Tloubatla was arrested and taken into custody at the Tsakane SAPS under CAS no. 231/2/2021 where he was charged with fraud and being in contravention of the Health Professions Act 56 of 1974. He is scheduled to appear in court.

Council is pleading with the public to refrain from purchasing medical certificates. This has a ripple effect on the functioning of many organisations and the economy as a whole. The HPCSA applauds the members of the public for the tip-offs provided thus far and they are encouraged to continue to do so as this safe guards the general public from harm.

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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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