
Media Statement

HPCSA ARRESTS BOGUS PRACTITIONERS

11 June 2021

For immediate release

Pretoria –The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) continues to uphold its mandate of protecting the public by clamping down on unregistered persons who practise whilst not registered with Council. It also ensures that healthcare practitioners who perform fraudulent activities such as the issuing of fraudulent medical certificates are brought to book.

The HPCSA's Inspectorate Office and members of the South African Police Service (SAPS) in Thohoyandou conducted an operation aimed at eradicating unregistered practitioners at Nanumed Medical Centre. During the operation, Mr Shonisani Gilbert Mutswaletsuale was found practising as a medical practitioner whilst not registered as such with Council. It was established that Mr Mutswaletsuale was previously registered as a Medical Technologist and was suspended from the HPCSA register for non-payment of annual fees in 2010. He was arrested and detained at Thohoyandou SAPS for fraud and contravening Section 17(1) of the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974.

In another operation, the Inspectorate Office and the SAPS in Kwamashu, arrested Ms Lindalane Dlamini and Mr Skumbuso Mtimkhulu for issuing fraudulent medical certificates using Dr Suliman's name.

The two suspects were arrested and will appear in court on Monday, 14 June 2021.

"The HPCSA pleads with the public to be more vigilant of bogus practitioners and also those practitioners who are issuing fraudulent medical certificates as this endangers the lives of the public and has a negative impact on the employers' productivity", said Dr Motau, HPCSA Registrar/CEO.

Practising whilst not registered with Council is a criminal offence. The public can verify a practitioner's status by checking the HPCSA iRegister or calling the Call Centre on 012 338 9300/1.

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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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