

Media Statement

Three bogus practitioners nabbed in Germiston

16 October 2020

For immediate release

Pretoria – The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) is working tirelessly with law enforcement agencies to expose bogus practitioners who are illegally practising and putting the lives of innocent civilians at risk. Safeguarding the health profession is a collective responsibility that will ensure the public's safety and that medical care is provided by registered persons.

The HPCSA's Inspectorate Office in conjunction with members of the Ekurhuleni East Crime Intelligence Unit and the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Police Department (EMPD) Community Liaison Unit conducted an operation at the medical practice of Dr William Fanuel Mogomotsi (who is actively registered as a medical practitioner with the HPCSA). During the operation, the Team established that Mr Maxwell Thsidiso Lengoabala (a Student Clinical Associate) was practising as a medical practitioner (whilst not registered as such with the HPCSA) under the name and practice details of Dr William Fanuel Mogomotsi and also practising without any supervision.

Mr Lengoabala indicated that he has been practising as a medical practitioner at the practice of Dr Mogomotsi in his absence since February 2019, this was further acknowledged by Dr Mogomotsi. Mr Lengoabala and Dr Mogomotsi were arrested and taken into custody at the Germiston SAPS under CAS no. 3327/10/2021 where:

Mr Lengoabala was charged with contravening Section 17(1)(a) of the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974, which is a criminal offence in terms of Section 17(5), by practising as a medical practitioner whilst not being registered as such with the HPCSA, as well as fraud for practising under the name and practice details of Dr William Fanuel Mogomotsi. Dr Mogomotsi was also charged with fraud as he allowed Mr Lengoabala to practice under his name and practice details.

On another operation that was conducted with members of the Ekurhuleni East Crime Intelligence Unit and the EMPD Community Liaison Unit, Mr Senzo Mbatho and Mr Clifford Dube were caught selling fraudulent medical certificates (on the sidewalk) under the names of Dr Fortune Vision M Letuku and Dr AH Rahman in exchange for cash.

Mr Mbatho and Mr Dube were arrested and taken into custody at the Germiston SAPS under CAS no. 326/10/2021. They were both charged with fraud and contravening Section 39(1)(a) of the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974.

The HPCSA is mandated to protect the public and guide the professions through enforcement and compliance from the healthcare practitioners in line with the provisions of the Health Professions Act.

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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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