
MEDIA STATEMENT

**THE PROFESSIONAL BOARD FOR DENTAL ASSISTING, DENTAL THERAPY AND
ORAL HYGIENE CAUTIONS AGAINST BEAUTY SALONS PERFORMING TEETH
WHITENING PROCEDURES**

26 June 2018

For immediate release

Pretoria - The Professional Board for Dental Assisting, Dental Therapy and Oral Hygiene, under the ambit of the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA), is cautioning the public against teeth whitening by Beauty Salons.

Regulation 2 of the Regulations defining the scopes of the professions of Dentistry, Dental Therapy and Oral Hygiene stipulates that the following acts are hereby specified as acts which shall for the purpose of the application of the Act, be deemed to be acts pertaining to the professions of Dentistry, Dental Therapy and Oral Hygiene.

Based on the above regulations only appropriately trained, qualified and experienced oral health care professionals who are registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa may perform teeth whitening procedures.

“Section 34 of the Health Professions Act provides that no person shall practise within the Republic any profession outside the scope of which has been defined by the Minister of Health in terms of Section 33 (1).” It is therefore, illegal and in contravention of the Health Professions Act, (Act 56 of 1974), for Beauty Salons or any persons who are not registered with the HPCSA as oral health care practitioners may perform teeth whitening. Beauty salons are advised to refrain from performing teeth whitening procedures which they have not been educated and trained to perform.

About the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)

The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) 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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