
BOARD NOTICE

HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

No. R.

2012

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT NO.56 OF 1974)

**PROPOSED GUIDELINE TARIFFS FOR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AND
DENTISTS**

The Medical and Dental Professions Board (*“the Board”*) hereby withdraws BN 152 in GG 35684 of 14 September 2012 whereby it presented the intention of the Board to determine and publish guideline tariffs and requested interested persons to submit their comments on the proposed guideline tariffs by 19 October 2012.

The Board intends to embark on a new process to determine and publish a tariff of fees as contemplated in section 53(3)(d) of the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974 (*“the Act”*) for medical practitioners and dentists registered in terms of the Act (*“guideline tariffs”*).

Once determined and published, the guideline tariffs will be used as a norm for the determination, upon application by a patient for such determination as contemplated in section 53(3)(a) of the Act, of amounts which in the opinion of the professional board should have been charged by the practitioner to which the application relates to professional services rendered by such practitioner to the patient concerned.

Interested persons are hereby afforded an opportunity to submit substantiated comments or representations in writing on the issues that the Board should consider in the compilation of guideline tariffs as envisaged in the Act including but not limited to:


- a. The process and methods that the Board and its Tariff Committee (*"its Committee"*) should follow to determine the guideline tariffs referred to above;
- b. The appropriateness of using the 2006 National Health Reference Price List (*"the NHRPL"*) determined by the Council for Medical Schemes as a basis for the guideline tariffs and, if not appropriate, a proposal regarding an appropriate basis that the Board and its Committee should use for the determination of the guideline tariffs;
- c. If the NHRPL is used as the basis for the guideline tariffs, the appropriateness of using inflators such as the Consumer Price Index to counteract the effects of inflation in relation to the prices indicated in the NHRPL;
- d. If the NHRPL is used as the basis for the guideline tariffs, how to deal with the inclusion of codes for new procedures conducted by practitioners but not included in the NHRPL, the unbundling of certain codes and the excision of codes for obsolete procedures included in the NHRPL;
- e. The process and methods to be used by the Board and its Committee to determine practice costs and prices taking into account what patients can afford and a fair and reasonable fee for services rendered; and
- f. Any other relevant considerations relating to both the procedure that the Board should follow and the substantive factors that the Board should take into account in formulating the guideline tariff.

Interested persons are invited to submit their written comments on the issues indicated above to the Registrar, Health Professions Council of South Africa (for the attention of the General Manager: Professional Boards) by no later than 31 January 2013 by-

- (a) posting it to PO Box 205, Pretoria, 0001;

- (b) delivering it by hand at 553 Madiba (previously Vermeulen) Street, Arcadia, Pretoria, 0002; or
- (c) e-mailing it to: BhekiM@hpcsa.co.za.

Comments received after the closing date may not be considered.



DR B MJAMBA-MATSHOBA
REGISTRAR / CEO