

TO ALL EMPLOYERS:

In the governmental and non-governmental sectors (including, private, not-for profit, academic, community entities) that employ practitioners registered with the HPCSA

Department: OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Designation: REGISTRAR

Reference: CPD COMPLIANCE

Date: 11TH OCTOBER 2024

SUSPENSION OF HEALTH PRACTITIONERS REGISTERED WITH THE HPCSA FOR CPD NON-COMPLIANCE

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is the responsibility of every registered health practitioner, which is a constant requirement to ensure continued competency relevance in health care delivery. The CPD programme assists registered health practitioners to document the ongoing development of relevant professional skills, knowledge and experiences attained beyond initial training, gained both formally and informally as health practitioners practice their professions.

The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) is legislatively required to ensure that health practitioners always remain CPD compliant, as contained in section 26 of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974). **CPD compliance is therefore mandatory by law, for all health practitioners registered with the HPCSA. CPD compliance is critical for quality and good health care provision, thereby ensuring that the public always remains protected.**

Although the HPCSA has noted some improvement in compliance recently, the rates are still below 50%, which is totally unacceptable! **The HPCSA is determined to achieve a 100% compliance rate across all its constituent professional boards by no later than the 31st of March 2025. From the 1st of April 2025, the HPCSA will commence the process of suspending non-compliant practitioners as provided for in the legislation.** Depending on how long health practitioners remain

suspended, they may be subjected to onerous restorative processes, including, having to sit and pass board examinations, or practicing under supervision for relatively lengthy periods of time, before they can fully return to their respective registers. It is therefore in the interest of health practitioners that they make sure that they are CPD compliant by the indicated dates. Indeed, there is still time for health practitioners to remedy their non-compliance ahead of the indicated deadline.

While this message is intended primarily for health practitioners, we believe that employers and partners may face serious repercussions due to the suspension of non-compliant health practitioners. **It is therefore, in the “bottom line” interest of employers that they assist by conveying same, and most importantly, urging health practitioners to do the right thing. All health practitioners MUST be CPD compliant!**

If more clarity is sought regarding what is contained herein, contact the HPCSA by email: professionalpractice@hpcsa.co.za.

Yours sincerely,

**DR MAGOME MASIKE
REGISTRAR**