HealthMan
PRIVATE PRACTICE REVIEW

NOTICE

Private Practice Review presents the leader with a summary of the most relevant breaking news in the local and global healthcare industry, as obtained from media sources, including the public broadcaster, independent television and radio stations, leading local and international newspapers, specialist health industry publications and blogs. In the 21st century, healthcare complex the information is provided the leader with a brief overview of the main issues and events are developments as they are reported in the media. The views and opinions expressed in **Private Practice Review** are those of the original authors of the articles and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of HealthMan, its directors, employees and associates.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Pandemic an opportunity for CPS to play a bigger role in primary care

"A recent survey showed people are expecting to get their vaccine from their General Practitioner (GP) or clinic, not from a pop-up site. **This is an opportunity for the GP sector to be put our GPs at the centre of the Covid vaccine rollout.** Such a plan, with locally organisational and resource support, could begin a shift from small practices with limited capacity to more robust primary care providers, with more resources and better economies. This shift would boost our entire healthcare system, which we urgently need as the country strives to create a high-functioning universal healthcare system with the 14% " - Angelique Coetzee and Brian Rolf in **Business Day** 27 May 2021.

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Covid-19: 71% of South Africans want the vaccine, but only 1% has had it

"We are waiting for an uptick in the economy, waiting for jobs, waiting for the ANC to sort out who is suspending who - but most of all, we are waiting for vaccines."

Nic Spaull in **Financial Mail** 21 May 2021.

"The problem is, there is none available.
Why is this? SA has the resources. It has the expertise. It has the health infrastructure. Instead, it would seem, there was a failure to strategically plan, and to hedge bets.

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Pandemic triggered significant shifts in healthcare globally

HealthPoint is undergoing an unprecedented rate of change currently triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic. Of interest right now, says Ryan Nurick, CEO of Discovery Health, are new technologies, including biotech and genetics, where data and connectivity are opening up a world of intuitive, broad healthcare access.

"The Covid-19 pandemic triggered significant shifts in healthcare globally, driven by the need for social distancing, the need for more access to care for consumers and healthcare professionals and, second, the stark urgency for broad access to high quality healthcare."

- Ryan Nurick - **Business Day** 29 April 2021.

Also read: Influence of digital technology on healthcare

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NEWS ON GOVERNMENT

Health Minister announces national fund to be set up for medical litigation claims

Health Minister Dr Zweli Mkhize recently announced that a national fund - similar to the newly formed **No-Fault Compensation Fund** for Covid-19 vaccinations - would be set up for medical litigation claims.

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DoH asks Treasury for more money due to Covid-19

Basic health services such as testing for HIV/AIDS and TB, maintenance, filling in medical aid forms and providing equipment were severely hampered in the last financial year, the National Health Department (DoH) entitled its resources management report for 2020/21.
According to the department's chief financial officer, Sei van der Merwe, a shortfall in its budget for the 2021/2022 financial year has been presented to National Treasury to acquire additional funds to the amount of R2.5-billion allocated to C-19, the reduction in the budget was about 16%. The left hand as Treasury tightens the purse strings on programmes and infrastructure in provinces.

SAHPRA appeals to Treasury for more funding

The SA Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) has appealed to the National Treasury for more funding, warning that it cannot do its job effectively if its budget is not increased.
SAHPRA's Treasury allocation for the financial year was R85-million but it is falling from R155-m in 2022/2023 to R148-m in 2023/2024.
SAHPRA CEO, Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela said the agency is worried about 500 personnel to function properly, but at the moment it has only 290. Significant budget constraints have hit its enforcement digitising SAHPRA's processes.

Push for tighter lockdown in South Africa

Newsit reported on May 13, that Dr Ashraf Grewa, convener of the Progressive Health Forum, said that the country's health system is overwhelmed and that it is not properly prepared for an influx of new cases, and gatherings should be limited to around 10 people.
Also van den Heever, chair of Social Security Systems Administration and Management at Wits University, said that the government should be more transparent about the number of lives that people should be blocked as the country ramps up its vaccination programme.
On Thursday (7 May), Health Minister Dr Zweli Mkhize said that government can facilitate and encourage the use of traditional medicine and herbal remedies in an scientific recovery rather than imposing further restrictions.

SPECIAL NEWS

MediAdvance
A cash flow solution for small practices that wishes to transition to a medical aid tariff, but are concerned about their medicines, specifically, about their medicines.
ACTION
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EXCLUSIVE TO MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

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Suncare at Lady Hamilton is a boutique residential mental health facility situated in Cape Town. We offer guests with moderate mental health disorders a truly safe and comfortable home from home; long term lifestyle, free from social pressures and modern day stress. Guests are able to live in a normal, distractional, quiet and peaceful environment whilst receiving monitoring by excite certified nurses who provide assistance with medication compliance and support.