



PRIVATE PRACTICE REVIEW
NOTICE
Private Practice Review presents the reader with a summary of the most relevant breaking news in the local and global healthcare industry...

In this Newsletter
A summary of news highlights in the healthcare sector:
1 January - 30 June 2021

Food for Thought
News from Government
News from Medical Aids
Special Notes

In June's second issue of Private Practice Review: A summary of Financial News, Pharmaceutical News and General Highlights: 1 January - 30 June

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Health Minister Zweli Mkhize on 'special leave'
On Tuesday June 8, ANC's top leaders convinced Health Minister Zweli Mkhize to step aside temporarily pending an investigation into a communications contract handed to associates of his...

- Tourism Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane has been appointed as acting Health Minister
It is understood that Home Affairs Minister Aengone Moselele and Co-operative Governance Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma - who are both medical doctors and previously held the post - were deliberately overlooked because Mkhize's possible exit will signal an opportunity for Ramaphosa to reshuffle his entire cabinet and introduce new blood.

Digital Vibes: A dilemma for Mkhize & Ramaphosa
The Digital Vibes exposé by Scorpio's Pieter-Louis Myburgh started in February, revealing how Mkhize's long-time personal assistant, Tahira Mather, and his former personal assistant, Naadhira Mitha, had controlled a company called Digital Vibes...

HPCSA is in the 'Twilight Zone' on NHI Bill
Michael Settas in Daily Maverick (25 May 2021)
The HPCSA wants to put it on record that, for the NHI to work, there should be only one funding mechanism for health in the Republic of South Africa...

NEWS ON GOVERNMENT
South Africa prepares for next phase of the NHI
In May the Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) announced that government's NHI plan is in full development, with plans to move to phase 3 of the programme from next year...

National Health Insurance and government's implementation of the NHI Bill remains a contentious issue. Read more in the following articles:

Busting the National Health Insurance myth
Nationalising the management of all healthcare and putting it in the hands of the state will not solve any of the structural and systemic problems that afflict the public and private health sectors...

Outsourcing to the private sector will be a waste of money for NHI
New research suggests that the implementation of the National Health Insurance Bill (NHI) could be a lot cheaper if the state makes use of its own trained specialist doctors and uses in-house specialist services rather than hiring private specialists...

Alternative solutions to SA's ill-fated NHI
There are many reforms that can be made in SA without adopting the NHI. Such reforms will increase accessibility, quality, and sustainability in the healthcare sector...

South Africa's Auditor-General warned that without urgent intervention, a number of provincial health services face collapse. Medical Brief (22 April 2021)
Outstanding medico-legal claims amount to R105.5-bn, with five health departments facing claims in excess of this year's entire operational budget.

Timeline of the Covid-19 pandemic in South Africa
On March 5, 2020 Health Minister, Zweli Mkhize, announced the first confirmed case of Covid-19 in South Africa.
On March 23, 2020 a national 21-day lockdown (27 March to 16 April) was announced by President Ramaphosa.

Coronavirus Update: (9 June 2021)
South Africa: Total cases reported: 1 704 058
Recoveries: 1 587 015
Deaths: 57 183
Worldwide: Total cases reported: 174-m
Recoveries: 158-m
Deaths: 4-m

Also read the following news highlights by clicking on the button below:
Vaccines will cost R12-bn - R20-bn
C-19 rollout: Private sector still waiting on DoH
Price of COVID-19 vaccine seems to have doubled

NEWS FROM MEDICAL AIDS
Medical schemes have turned into a 'business science'
Prof Marietjie de Villiers, former deputy dean of the medical school at Stellenbosch University and former deputy chairperson of the Medical and Dental Professions' Board:

Report finds no evidence of explicit racial bias
The three-member investigation panel into racial profiling, chaired by Tembeka Ngcukatalabi, found no evidence of explicit racial bias in the algorithms and methods schemes and administrators used to identify healthcare practitioners who had potentially done wrong...

Proposal for medical aid reserves to be used for NHI won't fly
Medical schemes have objected to the Health Professions Council (HPCSA) proposal that their reserves be used to fund NHI. According to Financial Mail editor Rob Rose...

NETCARE, Discovery HealthID, GEMS logos and promotional text: You're in safe hands. Also read the following highlights by clicking on the button below: Netcare, Discovery defend prepaid doctors' vouchers...

SPECIAL NOTES
Beethoven Recovery Centre
Beethoven Recovery Centre, a well-established, private Psychiatric Hospital and substance abuse Rehabilitation Centre, has an opportunity for a general Psychiatrist to join our team.

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