

BOARD NOTICE 39 OF 2018

HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

ETHICAL RULES OF CONDUCT FOR PRACTITIONERS REGISTERED UNDER THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974: AMENDMENT

The Health Professions Council of South Africa intends, under section 49 read with section 61A (2) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 Of 1974) and in consultation with the professional board for speech, language, and hearing, to make the rules in the schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations in writing on the proposed amendments to the Registrar, Health Professions Council of South Africa, P.O. Box 205, Pretoria 0001 (for the attention of the General Manager: Professional Boards) within three months from date of publication of this Notice.

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these rules “**the Ethical Rules of Conduct**” means the Ethical rules of conduct for practitioners registered under the Health Professions Act, 1974 published under Government Notice No. R. 717 of 04 August 2006, as amended by Government Notice Nos. R. 68 of 02 February 2009, R. 654 of 30 July 2010, and Board Notice No. 26 of 01 March and any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the rules shall have that meaning, unless the context otherwise indicates.

Amendment of Annexure 8 of the Ethical Rules of Conduct

2. Annexure 8 of the Ethical Rules of Conduct is hereby amended by –
 - (a) the substitution for rule 3 of the following rule:

"3. Performance of professional acts by dispensing optician

- (a) A dispensing optician shall not dispense in any way spectacles to any person except on a prescription written and signed by a medical practitioner or an optometrist: Provided that this rule shall not apply to the repair or replacement of such spectacles or lenses or frames for such spectacles.
- (b) Notwithstanding rule 8, a dispensing optician shall not employ an Optometrist."
- (b) the addition of the following rule:

"5. Performance of the professional acts by an orthoptist

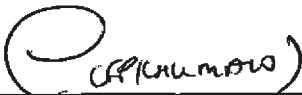
An orthoptist shall -

- (1) only undertake orthoptic acts falling within the scope of practice of orthoptists under the direction and control of a registered optometrist or ophthalmologist; and
- (2) not apply medicines or surgery in the treatment of any person."
- (c) the addition of the following rules:

"6. Online sale of Spectacles

A practitioner registered under the ambit of the professional board for Optometry and Dispensing Opticians may sell spectacles online provided that:

- (1) he or she has a physical practice where confirmation, verifications, fittings and adjustments can be made;
- (2) the sale shall only be limited to frame selection and pre-ordering of lenses (Single Vision only); and
- (3) the actual dispensing shall take place at a physical practice.



ADV PHELELANI KHUMALO 22/02/2018
ACTING REGISTRAR