



SADA

THE SOUTH AFRICAN
DENTAL ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE

TITLE

SADA OBJECTS STRONGLY TO A HPCSA ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE INCREASE MOOTED TO BE 25-30%

GAUTENG – 12th March 2021

STATEMENT:

Following meetings at the HPCSA late in 2020, we have reliably been led to believe that the fees for 2021 are expected to increase by between 25-30%. Once again, The South African Dental Association (SADA) object very strongly to the unjustifiable increases mooted by the Health Professions Council of SA (HPCSA) for the annual registration fees payable by practitioners registered under the Health Professions Act, including dentists, dental specialists and others.

Consequently, and on behalf of its members and the profession at large, it has written and called on the Council to urgently review its annual fee increase for 2021, and to reduce this significantly. They need to demonstrate an appreciation of the economic reality in South Africa with an increase based on the consumer price index (CPI). Fees of 25-30% are just not justifiable in any manner of reason.

These increases are substantially above CPI. The HPCSA did not accede to our request last year. We hope that the new Council and MBD will relook at this matter sympathetically towards its members.

SADA is of the view that if the HPCSA were to implement these fees, it would indicate their indifference towards the plight of its members. HPCSA would have disregarded the heavy financial impact that members, especially of the Oral Health profession, have suffered due to the limited and reduced services provided during 2020 due to Covid-19 alert level limitations as well as reduced fees through dental surgeries.

The registration fee increases for 2020 ranged from 21.65% to 21.24% for dentists and dental specialists, respectively. In 2018 and 2019 the increases were 12.29% and 12.13% for dentists and dental specialists respectively. It lends credence to SADA's claim that the increases are only to sustain the dysfunction of HPCSA, as per the Ministerial Task Team (MTT) Report chaired by Professor Bongani M Mayosi in October 2015. The MTT found that the HPCSA is a deeply dysfunctional mega-organisation of 12 professional boards which lacks coherence and cohesion.

However, the kind of co-operation that we have received from the new HPCSA Council and MBD, gives us measured hope that at long last, we have a council and MBD that listens. We, therefore, are hopeful that when the increases are gazetted and published in the next few days, they will be way less than what has been decided by the outgoing Board and Council.

Please be on the lookout for communication from the HPCSA on the fees for 2021 in the next few days. SADA will also communicate this as soon as it is published.

Ends

Release date: 12th March 2021

About SADA:

The South African Dental Association (SADA) is the peak national body for the dental profession in South Africa representing the large majority of active registered dentists, both in the public and private sectors in South Africa. It is a non-profit professional association with a voluntary membership organisation represented by a total of 11 branches, one in every province of the Republic of South Africa, with Gauteng and Eastern Cape provinces having two branches each. The Association represents the interests of both the oral health profession and its members in South Africa.

The Association is committed and engaged in processes relating to setting industry standards and formulating policies. Learn more about SADA at <https://www.sada.co.za>

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