



POLICY ON THE PRACTICE OF SHORT-TERM PHILANTHROPIC PRACTITIONERS

BACKGROUND

The Medical and Dental Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe (MDPCZ) is a statutory body established in terms of the Health Professions Act (Chapter 27:19). The functions of the Council as provided in Section 30 (1) of the Health Professions Act (Chapter 27:19) is registration of all practitioners wishing to practice in the country, education of medical and dental practitioners and ensure discipline within registered medical and dental profession. The three functions are performed to fulfill the provisions of Section 30 (1) (a) of the said legislation which mandates Council to assist in the promotion of the health of the population of Zimbabwe. It is against this background that Council values and recognizes the activities of charitable missions, organizations wishing to undertake short term philanthropic work in Zimbabwe. In this sense Council may exempt not automatically these short term visiting volunteer medical and dental practitioners.

The exemption shall not absolve Council from the need to ensure professional and ethical practice.

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The purpose of the policy is to facilitate the practice in Zimbabwe of visiting short-term volunteer mission medical and dental practitioners.

POLICY

Every short-term visiting medical/dental practitioner wishing to conduct any nature of clinical work shall be issued a letter of permission to practice within thirty days of receipt of the application.

The letter would cover the period of practice, contents of programme shall be issued upon complying with the following conditions.

- a) Submission of detailed updated curriculum vitae by every individual practitioner who is going to carry out clinical work of any nature in Zimbabwe.
- b) Submission of a Certificate of Good Standing (CGS) or any equivalent document to prove that the practitioner does not have any outstanding disciplinary issues in their home jurisdiction where they are currently practising.
- c) Each practitioner within the mission will be held accountable to normal standards of Health Professions in Zimbabwe
- d) The short – term voluntary mission should have a coordinator.

CONDITIONS FOR THE COORDINATOR

- a) The practitioner and mission coordinator shall submit reports and responses that may be sought by the Council in performing its normal regulatory duties
- b) The coordinator shall provide Council with:
 - A schedule of all the medical activities of the mission.
 - Confirmation of permission from the Clinical Director who should be a medical practitioner of the hospital where the mission would be undertaken.
 - Duration of the mission.
 - Complete list of practitioners.
 - All the required details.
- c) The coordinator shall advise Council of the local registered medical practitioner(s) who shall be part of the liaison team.
- d) All communication with the Council shall be addressed to the Registrar and duly submitted to Council offices by the Coordinator **not through a third party**

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY.

The objectives of the policy is to ensure that visiting volunteer short – term practitioners are granted permission to practice without any delay and be asked to conduct their mission within their stipulated time table.

Date: _____

Coordinator's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Practitioner's Signature: _____