

WELCOME

HEALTH COMMITTEE



25 October 2018

FUNCTIONS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Presented by: Prof Rataemane
Member of the Health Committee

*Protecting the public
and guiding the professions*



THE HEALTH COMMITTEE IS A STATUTORY BODY ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 15(5)(F) OF THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT NO.56 OF 1974) AND INCLUDES A JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 15B (1)(F) OF THE ACT.

- ❑ Regulates/advises impaired practitioners and students registered in terms of the Health Professions Council Act, (Act 56 of 1974) section 51 who suffer from
 - ◆ Mental or physical condition or
 - ◆ Abuse of or dependence on chemical substances,Which affects the competence, attitude, judgment or performance of a student or a person.
- ❑ Non-punitive committee; established to manage the compliance of the practitioners while also protecting the public.
- ❑ The committee also focuses on the refinement of the regulations and procedures affecting its day to day functions and operations

FUNCTIONS OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

- ❑ Establish policies and procedures and to enlist cooperation and support for the prevention or alleviation of circumstances which may lead to impairment in students and practitioners.
- ❑ Establish mechanisms and procedures for the early identification of impairment in students and practitioners
- ❑ Implement procedures for handling crisis situations which may threaten patient safety and care.
- ❑ Undertake informal assessments of reports on alleged impaired students and practitioners, to make findings with regard to impairment and , if required, to impose conditions of registration or practice on such persons aimed at protection of patients and treatment of impaired persons.

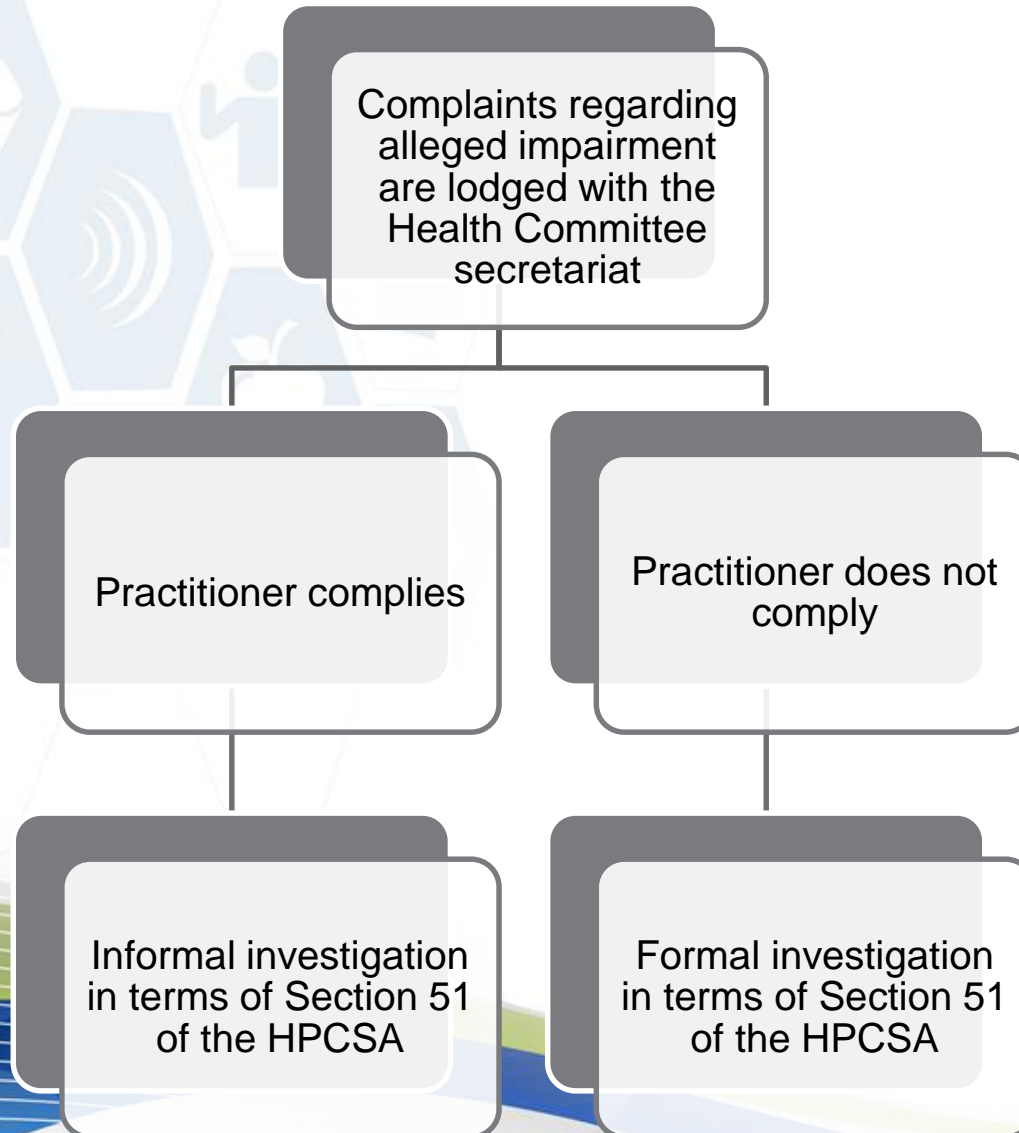
FUNCTION OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

- ❑ Appoint Ad Hoc investigation committees to
 - ◆ Undertake formal investigations into reports on alleged impairment in the absence of voluntary cooperation of students or practitioners,
 - ◆ Make findings with regard to impairment and,
 - ◆ If required, to impose conditions of registration or practice aimed at protection of patients and treatment of impaired students or practitioners.

- ❑ Consider applications by students or practitioners who were found to be impaired to have their conditions of registration or practice amended or to have such conditions revoked.

- ❑ Oversee the implementation of treatment programmes of impaired students or practitioners and to review the position of each such student or practitioner at least every three years.

PROCESS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE



INFORMAL

**Report
guidelines**

Complaints regarding alleged impairment are lodged with the Health Committee secretariat

One specialist is appointed by the Committee to assess the practitioner for the alleged impairment, the practitioner appoints a second specialist of his choice

The matter is reported to the Health Committee for consideration during its next meeting

The practitioner is informed of the complaint and is requested to undergo an assessment with the appointed specialists

**Practitioner
complies**

An **informal** investigation in terms of Section 51 of the HPCSA is initiated

The assessment reports from the two appointed specialists are submitted to the Committee for consideration and a determination regarding impairment is made

FORMAL INVESTIGATION (1)

Complaints regarding alleged impairment are lodged with the Health Committee secretariat

The practitioners name will be suspended from the register of health practitioners until such time that the practitioner is assessed by the two specialists and report is submitted

The matter is reported to the Health Committee for consideration during its next meeting

Should the practitioner **STILL** refuse to comply

Practitioner does not comply

Formal investigation in terms of Section 51 of the HPCSA

The practitioner will be sent a notice to subject himself/herself to do the assessment within 30 days

FORMAL INVESTIGATION (2)

Upon receipt of independent reports, committee makes a determination regarding impairment

Impaired

Not impaired

The impairment is processed on the HPCSA administration system against the practitioner's name

Matter closed and practitioner informed

Committee may impose practice restrictions

Practitioner continues with treatment intervention by their chosen HPCSA and HC monitors

REHABILITATION AND COMPLIANCE OF PRACTITIONERS

- ❑ After a practitioner has been declared impaired the HC continues to monitor:
 - ❑ Three monthly progress reports should be submitted to the Health Committee by the treating doctor and the supervisor for a period of twelve months for consideration by the Committee;
 - ❑ If progress is observed and the practitioner is complying, the Health Committee requires six monthly reports from the treating doctor and the supervisor for consideration during the second year;
 - ❑ If progress is observed and the practitioner is complying, the Health Committee requires an annual report from the treating doctor and the supervisor for the third year

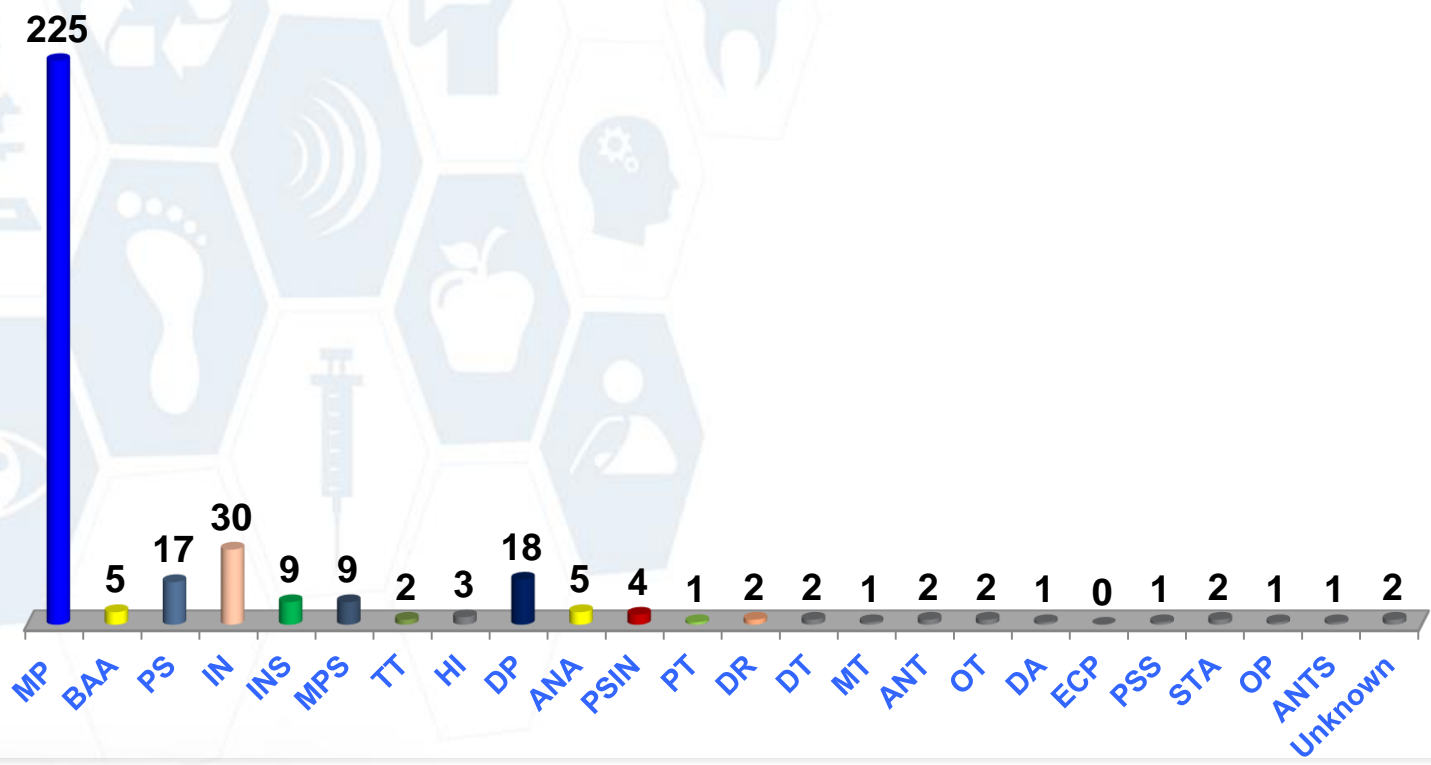
REHABILITATION AND PRACTITIONERS' COMPLIANCE

- ❑ An interview is conducted by the Health Committee and depending on the progress made in achieving rehabilitation, the conditions of service imposed upon the practitioner may be **LIFTED**;
- ❑ If the practitioner does not comply with conditions of service, his/her name is suspended from the register until compliance is observed.

CONDITIONS OF PRACTICE

- ❑ HC may impose a variety of conditions under which an impaired practitioner may continue to practice:
 - ◆ Prescription restriction – high schedule medications (Schedules 5-8, e.g. barbiturates, opiates, etc.)
 - ◆ Working under supervision
 - ◆ Working in public service only

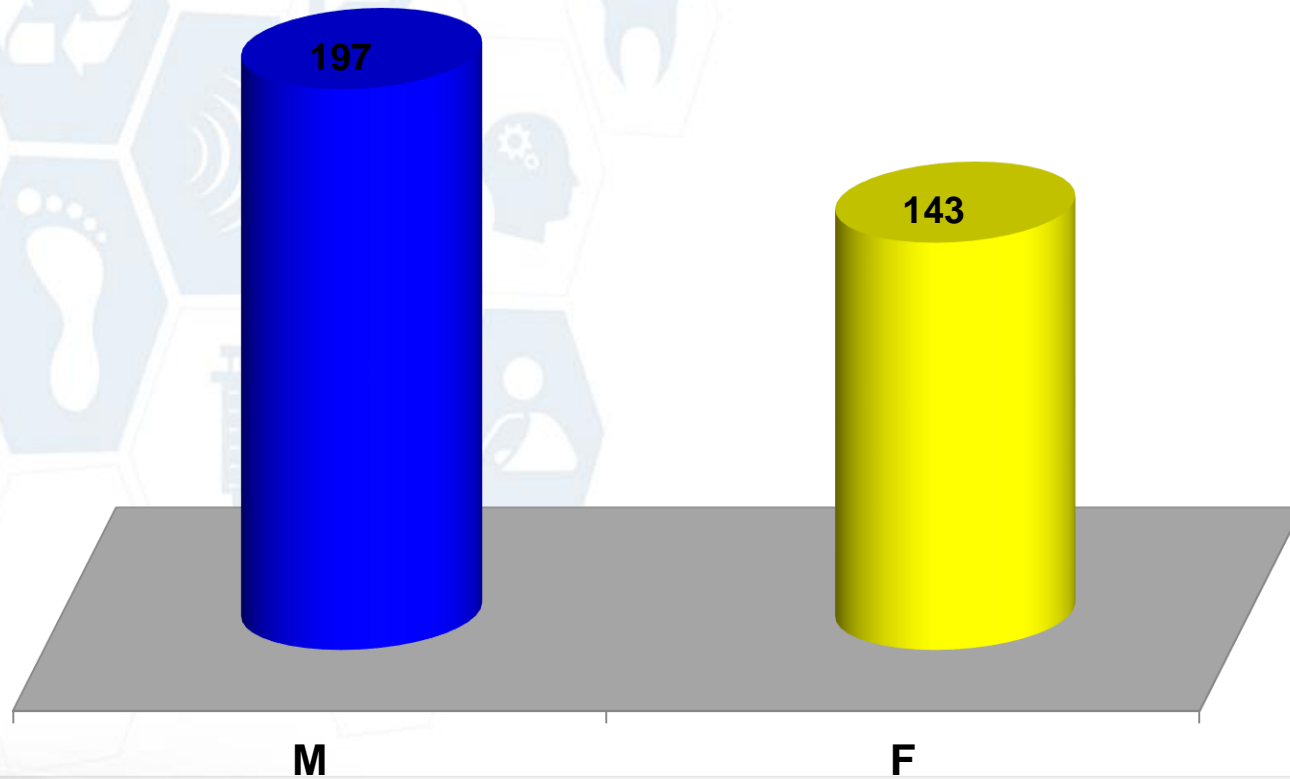
DISTRIBUTION OF IMPAIRMENT BY REGISTER



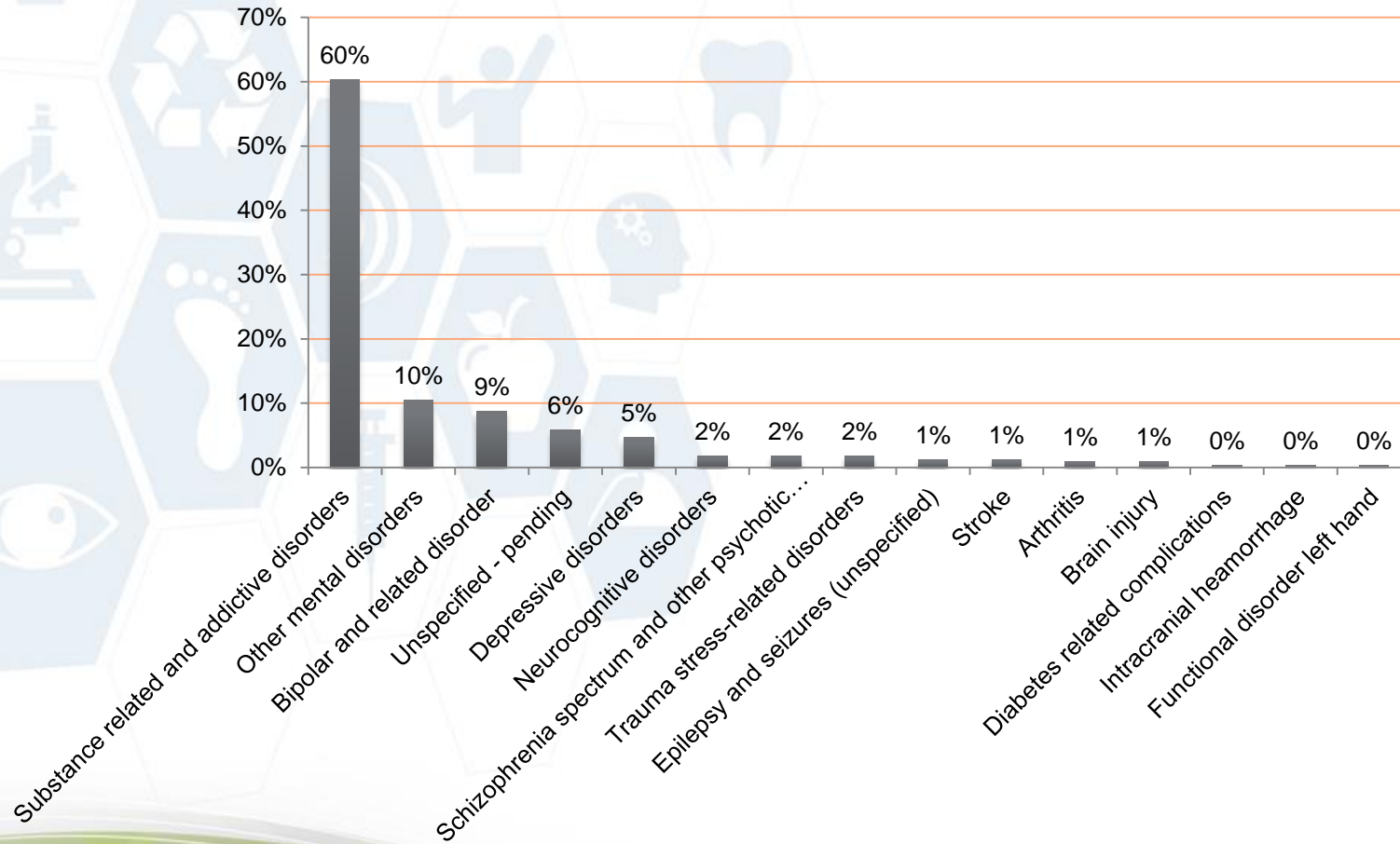
HPCSA REGISTRATION CRITERIA

ANA	Ambulance Emergency Assistant	MPS	Medical Practitioner (Specialist)
ANT	Paramedic	MT	Medical Technologist
ANTS	Student Paramedics	OP	Optometrist
BAA	Basic Ambulance Assistant	OT	Occupational Therapist
DA	Dental Assistant	PS	Psychologist
DP	Dental Practitioner	PSIN	Psychology Intern
DR	Radiographer	PSIN	Psychology Intern
DT	Dietician	PSS	Psychology student
ECP	Emergency Care Practitioner	PT	Physiotherapist
HI	Environmental Health Practitioner	STA	Speech Therapist and Audiologist
IN	Medical Intern	TT	Dental Therapist
INS	Student Intern	TT	Dental Therapist
MP	Medical Practitioner		

IMPAIRMENT BY GENDER



IMPAIRMENT DIAGNOSES



REPORTING IMPAIRMENT

Please note that as from the 01 August 2015 reports and other correspondence to the health committee should be emailed to HealthCommittee@hpcsa.co.za Please Complete the below form:

Alleged Practitioner Name:

Gender:

Date of Birth:

Registration No:

Allegation:

Reporting Person:

Email:

Contact Details:

Submit



The Health Committee Secretariat

can be contacted at

0123383963 and the regulations are accessible at

www.hpcsa.co.za

<http://www.hpcsa.co.za/Committees/HealthComm>



