
MEDIA STATEMENT

FINAL JUDGEMENT AGAINST DR DAVID STEPHEN GRIEVE

25 November 2021

For immediate release

Pretoria - The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) is committed to ensuring that registered practitioners maintain ethical behaviour as prescribed in the HPCSA ethical guidelines which highlights how practitioners should conduct themselves.

In 2004 to 2009 Dr David Stephen Grieve persuaded his patients and family members to invest in a financially distressed company called "Bridging Solution (PTY) LTD" in which he misappropriated monies invested by his patients and family members. The money invested in the company is R22 million rands of which R7,919,806.00 is from his brother William Grieve. Dr Grieve raised an objection that the HPCSA lacks jurisdiction to charge him and took the matter to the High Court. After the High Court ruled that the HPCSA does not have Jurisdiction to charge Dr Grieve, the HPCSA was granted leave to appeal the High Court's decision in the Supreme Court of Appeal. The Supreme Court of Appeal ruled that the conduct complained of fell within the jurisdiction of the HPCSA in terms of Section 41(1) of the Health Professions Act. This section states that "a professional board shall have power to institute an inquiry into any complaint, charge or allegation of unprofessional conduct against any person registered under this Act, and, on finding such person guilty of such conduct, to impose any of the penalties prescribed in section 42 (1)".

Dr Grieve was charged with contravening the norms and standards of his profession, alternatively bringing the good name of his profession into disrepute by:

- (a) persuading some of his patients and former patients to invest in a company of which he was a director when he knew that the company was in financial distress.
- (b) transferred funds invested in his company into his private bank account.
- (c) causing financial prejudice to his patients and other persons concerned who were persuaded to deposit large sums of money into bank accounts of his company that were subsequently liquidated.

During the proceedings, the Committee found Dr Grieve guilty and he was sentenced to three years suspension from practice, this means Dr Grieve is not allowed to practice as a medical practitioner during the period of suspension.

The HPCSA's fundamental objective is to always maintain a high standard of professionalism, it is also the primary guardian and custodian of morals in relation to healthcare professionals registered under the Act. Council advises practitioners to be cautious with engaging in activities that involve their patients.

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About the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)

The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) also known as Council is a statutory body established under the Health Professions Act, 56 of 1974. The HPCSA is committed to protecting the public and guiding the professions. The mission of the HPCSA is quality and equitable healthcare for all.

The HPCSA is mandated to regulate the health professions in the country in aspects pertaining to education, training and registration, professional conduct and ethical behaviour, ensuring Continuing Professional Development (CPD), and fostering compliance with healthcare standards.

In order to safeguard the public and guiding the professions, registration in terms of the Act is a prerequisite for practising any of the health professions registrable with Council.

Issued by:

Christopher Tsatsawane
Head of Division: Corporate Affairs
Health Professions Council of South Africa
Cell: 082 803 1600
Email: christophert@hpcsa.co.za