

BOARD NOTICE 185 OF 2011**The Allied Health Professions Council of South Africa**

61 Rose Street, Pretoria, 0084. Private Bag X4, Queenswood, 0121
Telephone (012) 329-4001 Fax 329-2279 email: registrar@ahpcsa.co.za
Website: www.ahpcsa.co.za

16 November 2011

UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT: TELEMEDICINE

Telemedicine is the exchange of information on health care at a distance by whatever means, whether privately or publicly, for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment of any person(s).

The Allied Health Professions Council of South Africa views participation in any telemedicine scheme to be in breach of patients rights in that patients have a right to, amongst other things, informed consent, patient confidentiality and patient/practitioner professional relationship. All practitioners are therefore required to properly and personally assess and/or consult with each patient prior to making any diagnosis and/or for the treatment of any person. A practitioner may also not express him/herself in public regarding matters of a health science nature without the permission of the relevant AHPCSA Board as this is in direct contravention of Government Notice No R1746 of August 1983.

All Allied Health Professions Council of South Africa Professional Boards [Homeopathy, Naturopathy and Phytotherapy (PBHNP), Chiropractic and Osteopathy (PBCO), Therapeutic Aromatherapy, Therapeutic Reflexology, Therapeutic Massage Therapy

(PBARM) and Acupuncture, Chinese Medicine and Unani-Tibb (PBACMU)] have therefore deemed the practice of telemedicine to be **unprofessional conduct** for practitioners in all allied health professions and participation in any telemedicine scheme by allied health practitioners, in any manner whatsoever, is prohibited.

Should the Allied Health Professions Council become aware of registered practitioners engaging in the abovementioned prohibited practice, such a practitioner shall face disciplinary action in terms of Sections 23-30 of the Allied Health Professions Act 63 of 1982 (as amended).



DR LOUIS MULLINDER
REGISTRAR: AHPCSA