

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH


NO. 4196

14 December 2023

**ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1982(ACT No. 63 OF 1982)****REGULATIONS RELATING TO SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF THE PROFESSIONS OF  
CHIROPRACTIC AND OSTEOPATHY**

The Minister of Health has, under section 38(1)(i) and (l) of the Allied Health Professions Act, 1982 (Act No. 63 of 1982), and after consultation with the Allied Health Professions Council, made the Regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director-General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for attention of the Director: Public Entities Governance; [mihloti.mushwana@health.gov.za](mailto:mihloti.mushwana@health.gov.za) and [godfrey.tsebe@health.gov.za](mailto:godfrey.tsebe@health.gov.za)), within three months of the date of publication of this notice.

  
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**DR M.J PHAAHLA, MP**  
**MINISTER OF HEALTH**  
**DATE:** 20/11/2023

## SCHEDULE

### Definitions

1. In these Regulations, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall have the meaning so assigned and, unless the context otherwise indicates—

**“Acupressure”** means the use of direct pressure applied on acupoints;

**“Acupoints”** means certain points on the body that are located on meridians and are used to stimulate the meridian in order to treat various conditions of the body;

**“Manipulation”** means a manual thrust, pressure or maneuver directed to a spinal or any other joint articulation and related soft tissues;

**“Medical device”** means any instrument, appliance, material, machine, apparatus, implant, or diagnostic reagent —

(a) used or purporting to be suitable for use or manufactured or sold for use in —

- (i) the diagnosis, treatment, mitigation, modification, monitoring, or prevention of disease, abnormal physical or mental states or the symptoms thereof; or
- (ii) restoring, correcting, or modifying any somatic or psychic or organic function; or
- (iii) the diagnosis or prevention of pregnancy,

and which does not achieve its principal intended action in or on a human or animal body through chemical, pharmacological, immunological, or metabolic means in or on the human body, but which may be assisted in its function by such means; or

(b) declared by the Minister by notice in the *Gazette* to be a medical device, and includes any part or an accessory of a medical device;

**“Medicine”** means any substance or mixture of substances used or purporting to be suitable for use or manufacture or sold for use in –

- (a) the diagnosis, treatment, mitigation, modification, or prevention of disease, abnormal physical or mental state or the symptoms thereof in human beings; or
- (b) restoring, correcting, or modifying any somatic or psychic or organic function in human beings and includes any veterinary medicine;

**“Regulations of 1982”** means the Regulations made under section 38 of the Act, as published under Government Notice No. R 2610 of 03 December 1982 and amended by: Government Notice No. R. 870 of 29 April 1983, Government Notice No. R. 1196 of 10 June 1983, Government Notice No. R. 1745 of 12 August 1983, Government Notice No. R. 2322 of 26 October 1984, Government Notice No. R. 2712 of 14 December 1984, Government Notice No. R. 1083 of 17 May 1985, Government Notice No. R. 2394 of 21 November 1986, Government Notice No. R. 1622 of 31 July 1987, Government Notice No. R. 2366 of 23 October 1987, Government Notice No. R629 of 31 March 1988, Government Notice No. R. 2439 of 2 December 1988, Government Notice No. R. 2855 of 7 December 1990, Government Notice No. R. 203 of 4 February 1994, Government Notice No. R. 1700 of 25 October 1996; and as repealed in part (Chapters 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10,12 and 15), by Government Notice No. R. 127 of 12 February 2001;

**“Regulations of 2001”** means the Regulations published under Government Notice No. R. 127 of 12 February 2001 made under section 38 of the Allied Health Professions Act, 1982 (Act. No. 63 of 1982);

**“Substance”** means anything which, whether used alone or in combination in either its original or natural state or in compounded, manipulated, or prepared form, constitutes a medicine or forms part of a medicine or which is a basic or starting substance; and

**“the Act”** means the Allied Health Professions Act, 1982 (Act No. 63 of 1982);

**Remedies for use in the professions of Chiropractic and Osteopathy**

2. A Chiropractor or Osteopath who has successfully completed the relevant training approved by the Council, may, subject to the Medicines and Related Substances Act, 1965 (Act No. 101 of 1965), possess or have under his or her control and: -
- (1) prepare, prescribe for, or administer, or dispense to a patient for the purposes of the acts specially pertaining to his or her profession listed in regulations 3 and 4 respectively –
    - (a) vitamins, minerals, and amino acids;
    - (b) prebiotics and probiotics;
    - (c) health supplements;
    - (d) medicines or substances intended exclusively for application to the skin;
    - (e) such other substances or medicines whose use as a remedy, in the opinion of the relevant professional board and the Council, is within the scope of practice of the profession of chiropractic or osteopathy as set out in regulation 3 or 4, respectively.
  - (2) prepare and administer to a patient for the purpose of treating neuro-musculoskeletal pathology –
    - (a) sterile water;
    - (b) isotonic saline solutions;
    - (c) hypertonic saline solutions;
    - (d) glucose;
    - (e) dextrose;



- (f) such other substances or medicines whose use for the purpose of treating neuro-musculoskeletal pathology, in the opinion of the relevant professional board and the Council, is within the scope of practice of the profession of chiropractic or osteopathy as set out in regulation 3 or 4, respectively.

### **Acts specially pertaining to the profession of Chiropractic**

3. The following are acts specifically pertaining to the profession of Chiropractic-

- (a) the physical, orthopaedic, muscular, or neurological examination of any person, with or without the taking, reading, and interpreting of radiographs, for the purpose of diagnosing or any physical defect, illness, or deficiency in such person;
- (b) the treatment or prevention of any physical defect, illness or deficiency related to spinal, pelvic, spinovisceral, articular or general neuro-musculoskeletal conditions in any person by –
  - (i) chiropractic manipulation or adjustment;
  - (ii) electrophysical modalities;
  - (iii) therapeutic exercises;
  - (iv) hydrotherapy;
  - (v) traction therapy;
  - (vi) thermal therapy;
  - (vii) vibration therapy;
  - (viii) immobilisation therapy;

- (ix) neuromuscular reflex therapy;
  - (x) chiropractic soft tissue manipulative therapy;
  - (xi) myofascial pain therapy;
  - (xii) dry needling;
  - (xiii) acupressure therapy;
  - (xiv) postural or gait analysis and training;
  - (xv) administration of medicines or substances by injection;
  - (xvi) proprioceptive neuromuscular facilitation;
  - (xvii) the use of any medical device as may be approved by the professional board;
  - (xviii) remedies, dietary advice, or dietary supplementation;
- (c) any other act specially pertaining to the profession of chiropractic based on the education and training of practitioners of chiropractic as approved by the Council from time to time at the recommendation of the relevant professional board and published in the *Gazette*;

#### **Acts specially pertaining to the profession of Osteopathy**

4. The following are acts specially pertaining to the profession of osteopathy –

- (a) the physical, orthopaedic, muscular, or neurological examination of any person, with or without the reading and interpreting of radiographs, for the purpose of diagnosing any physical defect, illness, or deficiency in such person;

- (xviii) the use of any medical device as may be approved by the relevant professional board
- (xiv) remedies, dietary advice, or dietary supplementation;
- (c) any other act specially pertaining to the profession of osteopathy based on the education and training of practitioners of osteopathy as approved by the Council from time to time at the recommendation of the relevant professional board and published in the *Gazette*;

### **Repeal**

5. (1) Regulations 45 and 49 of the Regulations of 1982 are hereby repealed.
- (2) Regulation 27 of the Regulations of 2001 is hereby repealed.

### **Short Title**

6. These regulations are called Regulations relating to scope of practice of the professions of Chiropractic and Osteopathy, 2023.