



ASAIPA 2023 – busy year ahead...!

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings to all our ASAIPA members from this, our first ASAIPA News4u issue of the year – a year that promises to be even more busy for us at ASAIPA and certainly challenging once again for our GP members.

Practice Matters

ASAIPA has already begun working on further representation on behalf of members on key matters of concern to general practice, most notable being the Pharmacy Council application for Pharmacy-Initiated Management of Antiretroviral Therapy (PIMART). We continue to support IPAF's campaigns against this threat to our autonomy as GPs.

Other matters on our table include ongoing engagements with the NDOH, HPCSA, BHF, CMS and other regulatory bodies to best represent the interest of our members. Issues of concern include the Low-Cost Benefit Option Framework proposed by the Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) on which we have submitted comments and concerns.

Importantly, we also await the finalisation of the Constitutional Court directive on the controversial Certificate of Need (CON) legislation, having supported Solidarity's case against the DOH on the matter. On a positive note, we were able to confirm that the Recession Application of the Minister has been postponed sine die, pending the Constitutional Court directive.

Events

ASAIPA members must take note of the many events in which we will be very involved this year; CPD Events, our Charity Golf Day, sponsorship and participation in the GGPF conferences, Roadshows nationally on in-practice issues, and our National Medical Awards (NMA).

Smart Health Summit 2023

Topping the list will be the first of its kind Smart Health Summit 2023. This summit will promote digital health transformation in South Africa. It will take place from 01-02 June 2023 at Houghton Hotel in Johannesburg with subsequent Summit Health Roadshows in Durban on 6 June and Cape Town, 8 June. ASAIPA has partnered with the Africa Telehealth Collaboration (ATC) and dx5 to host this event annually.

The key Technology Focus areas will be: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data and Analytics, Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality/Mixed Reality, Cybersecurity, Robotics and Robotic Process Automation. Kindly visit the following link for more information:- <https://smarthealth.dx5ve.com/>

ASAIPA CPD EVENTS

Members don't have to be reminded of the importance and benefit of CPD events and activities. To assist members, we have created a CPD Calendar of events and activities on the ASAIPA website for easy registration to relevant programs. Kindly click on the following link to view our CPD Calendar:- [Events Archive - ASAIPA](#)

As announced towards the end of last year ASAIPA has been appointed by the HPCSA as an official CPD Accreditor. All groups/organisations wishing to host CPD events can now apply to ASAIPA for accreditation. Kindly contact Nellie Liebenberg at nellie@asaipa.co.za for more information.

ASAIPA National Medical Awards (NMA)

The ASAIPA National Medical Awards (NMA) and the official presentations, will be taking place at a prestigious gala evening on the 02 June 2023 at the Houghton Hotel. Please click on the following link to view the recipients who have been chosen by their peers to receive the NMA Awards:- <https://asaipa.co.za/events/national-medical-awards-2022/>

ASAIPA Charity Foundation (ACF)

The 2023 ASAIPA Charity Golf Day will be taking place on 28 July 2023 at Woodhill Golf Estate. All funds raised will be distributed by the foundation to communities in need. Any members interested in supporting and assisting ACF please contact Tanya Muller at tanya@asaipa.co.za. Please click on the following link for more information:- [ASAIPA Charity Foundation - ASAIPA](#)

Gauteng General Practitioners Forum (GGPF) Conferences

ASAIPA is also a co-founder of the GGPF CPD Conferences. This is a bi-annual event, which will once again be held in person at Gallagher Estate, Midrand, on 12 March 2023. To register and view the speaker program, please click on the following link:- [Conference Registration 12 March 2023 \(ggpf.co.za\)](#)

Mediation Help Desk

The ASAIPA Mediation Help Desk assists members on practice matters with legal guidance. All forensic enquiries can be directed to Tanya Muller at tanya@asaipa.co.za. The Mediation Help Desk as part of our legal department will also be conducting training for members on the POPIA Act. Please contact the Help Desk for the toolkit and to schedule training for your practice staff to be POPIA Act compliant.

Renewal Dates

To round off, just a quick reminder to members of annual statutory fee renewal dates for medical practitioners and practices. These are critically important and to this end we recommend that our doctors' receptionists/assistants also have them diarised to ensure that they are met:

DOH for dispensing license:	28 February 2023
BHF for practice number:	31 March 2023
HPCSA annual registration fee:	31 March 2023

Kind regards,

Dr. Unben Pillay
ASAIPA CEO