

## Update: Inadequate staff at Manyima Clinic

The PSA was alerted on 17 December, that Manyima Clinic in Vhembe District is operating without a Professional Nurse (PNs), forcing the Enrolled Nursing Assistant (ENA) to perform professional acts in relation to a healthcare user which is beyond her scope. It must be stated that although an emergency can force such an act, it must be under the supervision of a Professional Nurse hence the situation exposed the ENA to possible lawsuit, discipline or even being struck off the roll by the Nursing Council. Subsequently, the PSA intervened and engaged with the Clinic where it was discovered that the Clinic had two PNs, one was on special leave while the other one was on maternity leave. The operational manager was also isolated due to COVID-19.

After failing to get hold of the operational manager, the PSA engaged the Acting Director responsible for PHC in Vhembe District, who reported that he engaged his Sub-District Manager and they arranged a Professional Nurse to go and assist at the Clinic on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2021, while they are busy looking into the issue over the weekend as the one PNs is expected to return to duty on 20 December 2021. The District Executive Manager could not answer the phone so the matter would be escalated to the office of the DDG. In the meantime, the ENA was advised by the employer to redirect patients to where they can get assistance and refer them to hospital where necessary.

The PSA urges all members to report work related problems including non-compliance with *OHS*A to local shop stewards and/or contact the office at [queen.seema@psa.co.za](mailto:queen.seema@psa.co.za).

Those who want to join the PSA can contact Paulina Moloto at 082 880 8957 / [Paulina.moloto@psa.co.za](mailto:Paulina.moloto@psa.co.za) and Lawrence Muvhango at 082 880 8995 / [Lawrence.muvhango@psa.co.za](mailto:Lawrence.muvhango@psa.co.za)

Members will be kept abreast of further developments.

GENERAL MANAGER