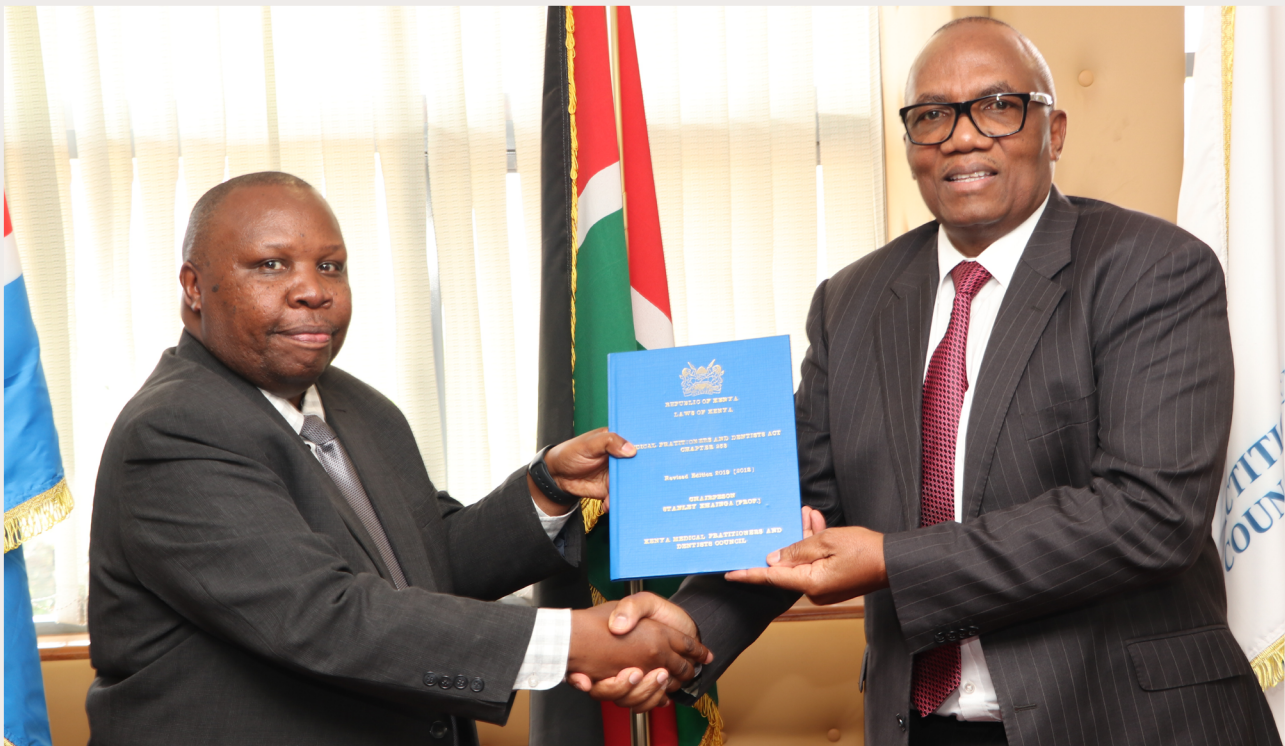


# The Practitioners BULLETIN



KENYA MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AND DENTISTS COUNCIL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

4<sup>th</sup> Edition



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## New Council Injects Energy as They Take Over

**T**he Council is now fully constituted following the appointment and inauguration of a new chairman and eight members. On 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023, President William Ruto appointed Prof. Stanley Ominde Khainga as the new chairman of KMPDC while Ms Susan Nakhumicha the CS Health appointed Dr. Patrick Amoth, Prof. Stephen Ogendo, Dr. Elizabeth Gitau, Dr. Timothy Theuri Kabaiku, Mr. Livingstone Bumbe, Mr. Musa Kiptanui, Dr. Rose Kosgei and Commissioner Sarah Bonaya as members. The members will serve a 3-year term.

### Prof. Stanley Khainga



Prof. Stanely O. Khainga, Chair KMPDC

With over 30 years of experience in clinical medicine, plastic, and reconstructive surgery, Prof. Khainga is a well-respected and world-renowned surgeon. He holds a Master of Medicine in Surgery from the University of Nairobi and a certificate of microvascular surgery in plastic and reconstructive surgery from the Medical University of Southern Africa (MEDUNSA), Pretoria. In addition, he is a W.H.O fellow in plastic and reconstructive surgery at MEDUNSA, Pretoria.

Prof. Khainga is an active member of several medical associations both locally and internationally, and currently serves as the Secretary General of the Kenya Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons. He has been a lecturer at the University of Nairobi's Medical School for more than 10 years, sharing his expertise with both postgraduate and undergraduate students in various public and private universities and hospitals in the country.

### Prof. Stephen Ogendo

Prof. Stephen Ogendo is a professor of surgery at Maseno University and also the current Dean, School of Medicine at the institution. He studied at the University of Nairobi where he obtained both his Undergraduate (MBChB) and Post Graduate specialization in surgery (MMeD). He got an additional three years training in cardiothoracic surgery in the UK.

Prof. Ogendo also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Research Methodology and Master's in Medical Education. His main interests are in medical education and training and has been involved in the activities of training with both governmental and non-governmental organizations within the region. He is a member of various professional organizations and societies.



Prof. Stephen O. Ogendo, Council Member

## Dr. Patrick Amoth



Dr. Patrick Amoth, Council Member

Dr. Patrick Amoth is the acting Director General for Health in the Ministry of Health, Kenya. He is also the Vice President of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO), representing the African region. A consultant obstetrician and gynecologist of immense repute, Patrick previously headed the Directorate of Public Health at the Ministry, where spearheaded strategy development for effective delivery of health services in all the 47 counties in Kenya and was centrally involved in the inception and alignment of Universal Health Coverage for the country.

Dr. Amoth formerly headed the Department of Health Sector Coordination and Intergovernmental Affairs, an assignment that was preceded by his successful stint as a Chief Medical Specialist and Senior Deputy Director of Medical Services at Mama Lucy Kibaki Hospital Nairobi. He has expansive experience in civil service having risen from a Medical Officer at Kisumu's Provincial Hospital before becoming the Medical Superintendent in the former Kiambu District Hospital, now Kiambu County Referral Hospital. He also later served as the Director of Medical Services for Kiambu East and Kiambu West Districts, now Kiambu County. During his stint in Kiambu, Dr. Amoth is credited with having had excellent managerial skills as well as robust and successful fundraising for the hospital, initiating various programs, and revolutionizing infrastructural improvement of most hospitals.

## Dr. Tim Theuri

Dr. Tim Theuri is the President of The Kenya Dental association (KDA). With more than eight years of experience and rich networks as a highly professional business leader, he is passionate about good governance and efficiency-transformation in health.

He holds a Bachelor in Dental Surgery, certifications in Business Administration and is a Fellow of the International College of Dentists as well as the Pierre Fauchard Academy. He has served as Assistant National secretary of KDA 2016-2018 and National Secretary 2018-2020. Dr Theuri has held various senior positions as resource person in taskforces at the Ministry of Health numerous technical working groups at Kenya Medical Practitioners & Dentist Council, Association of Professional Societies of East Africa and Kenya Professional Development Fund. His knowledge of the industry and strong analytical competencies have seen him become a key opinion leader.

He is the Chief Executive officer of The Kenya Healthcare Federation (KHF) the Health board of the Kenya Private s e c t o r



Dr. Tim Theuri, Council Member

Alliance (KEPSA).

Dr Theuri is founder partner at Dental Access Clinic one of the largest dental centers by client base and dental officers' establishment in Nairobi.

### Mr. Kiptanui Musa

Mr Moses Kiptanui is an Oral Health Officer with over 22 years of experience. Moses is currently serving as a Principal Oral Health Officer at the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Eldoret. He holds a



Mr. Kiptanui Musa, Council Member

Bachelor of Science Oral Health from Mount Kenya University and a Diploma in Oral Health from the Kenya Medical Training College.

Moses is a member of the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital College of Health Science Curriculum Development (HND- Oral Health Restorative Dentistry)

### Hon. Sara Talaso Bonaya

Hon. Sara Talaso Bonaya is currently a Commissioner at the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), whose mandate is to protect and promote Human Rights in Kenya. The mandate also includes offering advisories to the Government and reporting obligations to several International bodies and organisations.

Hon. Sara is also a former Member to the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) representing Kenya, where she served for two terms of 10 years. During her tenure she served in various strategic Committees where she participated in the formulation of numerous regional laws geared towards promoting regional integration. She holds a Master's Degree in Health Management,

Policy and Planning from the University of Leeds (UK), a Higher Diploma in Public Health Education and Behavior Change Communication as well as Diplomas in Nursing and Midwifery from the Kenya Medical Training College (KMTTC). She has excelled in the healthcare field, demonstrating professionalism and expertise, making her a trusted expert.

She has served in the Ministry of Health for 21 years in different capacities in the healthcare sector where she also participated in the formulation of the Ministry's strategic plan and influenced different policies. Sara was the focal point person with different development partners such as; WHO, JICA, UNICEF and DFID amongst others. She also served in different parts of the country as a Nurse, Midwife as well as a Public Health Education Officer engaged in different programmes in preventive and promotive health. Commissioner Sara is passionate about advancing health rights, gender equality and social justice.

Commissioner Sara passionately advocates for social justice and championing human rights focusing on vulnerable and marginalized communities and special interest groups especially women, girls and children.



Hon. Sara Bonaya, Council Member

### Dr. Rose Jephumba Kosgei

Dr Rose Jephumba Kosgei is an Obstetrician/ Gynecologist, Gynecologic Oncologist and Senior Lecturer at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Nairobi. Dr Kosgei is the current Coordinator of the Gynecologic Oncology Fellowship in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Nairobi. She is an astute researcher whose focus is on the use of routinely collected data for



Dr. Rose J. Kosgei, Council Member

evidence-based decision-making and policy change. She has over 100 peer reviewed publications and has offered support and leadership in developing standard operating procedures, guidelines, and policies for the Ministry of Health.

She holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery Degree (Moi University, Kenya, 2004), Masters in Obstetrics and Gynecology (University of Nairobi, Kenya, 2011), Fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology (University of Nairobi, 2021), Masters in Science in Clinical Trials (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK, 2012), a Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Trials (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK, 2010) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Biomedical Research Methodology (University of Nairobi, Kenya, 2009). She also has two research fellowships: Fogarty Research Fellowship in HIV/AIDS in Women (Brown University, Providence, RI, USA, 2009), and Operations Research Fellowship (Centre for Operational Research, International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, France, 2011).

Internationally (2015-2021), Dr Rose was the Executive Board Member for the International Federation

of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO), where she represented Africa and East Mediterranean regions.

### Dr. Elizabeth Gitau-Maina

Dr. Elizabeth Gitau-Maina is a medical doctor with an MBA-Healthcare management degree from the Strathmore Business School. She is the current assistant secretary General of the Kenya Medical Association, the professional body representing medical doctors in Kenya.

She has 10 years' experience in clinical practice in both public and private health sector. Dr Elizabeth currently serves a consultant in various health systems strengthening initiatives focusing Healthcare financing and public private engagements in health sector.

She is a former lecturer at the Kenya Medical Training college in a senior position training clinical officers in Kenya. Dr Elizabeth is an alumni of the prestigious German Academic Exchange programme (DAAD) and Equity Leadership program alumni. She was a member of the technical working group of the health committee of the Kenya COVID fund.

This TWG supported the Kenya COVID Fund in provision of protective equipment to health workers, training, and psychosocial support.

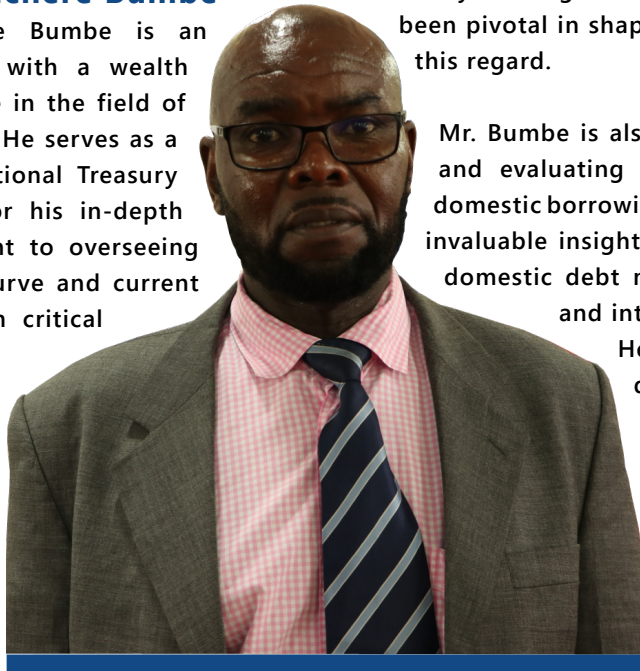


Dr Elizabeth Gitau-Maina, Council Member

### Mr. Livingstone Omuchere Bumbe

Mr. Livingstone Omuchere Bumbe is an accomplished professional with a wealth of experience and expertise in the field of Public Sector Management. He serves as a Deputy Director at the National Treasury. Mr Bumbe is renowned for his in-depth knowledge and commitment to overseeing the analysis of the Yield Curve and current market dynamics to inform critical decisions.

He plays an instrumental role in ensuring the regular review of legislative and regulatory frameworks that impact domestic borrowing. His timely briefings to the Cabinet



Secretary in charge of the National Treasury have been pivotal in shaping strategic decisions in this regard.

Mr. Bumbe is also involved in monitoring and evaluating the performance of the domestic borrowing program and providing invaluable insights on risk management in domestic debt markets, covering market and interest rates risks

He holds a Master's degree in Public Sector Management, from Africa University, Mutare, Zimbabwe.

Mr. Livingstone Omuchere Bumber , Council Member

### Mr. Ashford Mwiti Kirimi Kathaara

Mr. Ashford Mwiti Kirimi Kathaara has been appointed to the Council at KMPDC.

He brings to the Council an extensive background marked by exemplary record of fiscal governance and planning.

His professional journey attests to a commitment to precision, an unwavering dedication to fiscal prudence, and proven ability to navigate the complexities of financial management.

The Council welcomes this appointment that augurs well for the Council's continued pursuit of excellence in healthcare regulation



## KMPDC Unveils Strategic Plan

**K**MPDC has achieved a major milestone in its regulatory mandate by launching a 2023-2028 strategic plan. This plan will serve as a roadmap to guide KMPDC to achieve its set goals, adapt to challenging environment and maintain a competitive edge. The launch of the Strategic Plan occasion was graced by the Principal Secretary State Department Public Health and Professional Standards at the Ministry of Health, Ms Mary Muthoni, who lauded KMPDC for its impressive collaborative efforts towards the accomplishment of such a crucial document. She also commended the Council for striving to support Kenya's health care goals in alignment with the broader vision set out by the African Union for a healthier African populace by 2063.

The KMPDC 2023-2028 strategic plan is anchored on three focus areas:

Corporate Governance, Regulation and Enforcement and Strategic operations. On corporate governance, K M P D C will ensure maintenance of governance structures that will enhance adherence with acceptable ethical standards, best practices,

and laws. This will include enhancing the KMPDC legal framework, realigning KMPDC systems and structures, promoting partnerships and collaborations and enhancing monitoring and evaluation. On Regulation and enforcement, KMPDC shall endeavor to optimize compliance with set standards and regulations with a focus to enhancing quality healthcare. This will be achieved through efficient record management, inspections, and assessments, strengthened enforcement, awareness creation and standardization of training and assessment. Lastly, on Strategic operations KMPDC aims to strengthen integrated support systems and structures for more efficient operations. Expressly, KMPDC

intends to improve its human resource operational capacity, enhance its corporate image, expand its revenue streams, enhance its supply chain coordination, automate the internal audit function among other measures.

Devising a new vision of 'Excellence in regulation of training and practice of medicine and dentistry', KMPDC envisages being a phenomenal health regulatory authority propelled by the core values of Excellence, Professionalism, Integrity and Impartiality, and Collaboration and Partnership as mentioned in the blueprint. Moreover, as manifested in the plan, KMPDC is committed to supporting government efforts, cognizant of Kenya's Vision 2030. 'The existing environment of high stakeholder expectations and the need to continuously realign KMPDC functions with national government health sector initiatives such as Universal Health Coverage as well as the

Kenya Vision 2030 requires a refocus of strategic direction', said KMPDC Chairman, Prof. Stanley Khainga.

In his presentation on an overview of elements of the KMPDC new strategic plan, the Chief Executive



Officer, Dr. David Kariuki pointed to the Council's objective of standardizing the training and assessment of medical, dental, and oral health practitioners. This may imply more rigorous mechanisms applied in the assessment of practitioners to be. Case in point, the strategic plan provides for development and implementation of a framework for a common pre internship examination for all medical, dental, and oral health graduands. Dr. Kariuki also expressed hope in decentralization of KMPDC services as an excellent way of strengthening KMPDC's mandate of ensuring compliance thus promoting quality healthcare.

# Verifying Healthcare Provider Status

In healthcare, making informed decisions is paramount. The Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council (KMPDC) recognizes the significance of empowering the public to actively participate in their healthcare choices. To facilitate this, the Council has introduced a service that allows individuals to verify the licensure status of medical practitioners and health facilities. This strategic move not only ensures the public's safety but also elevates the standards of healthcare services across the nation.

The law requires that all medical and dental practitioners, as well as health facilities to be registered and licensed to provide services. The new verification service covers doctors, dentists, community oral health officers and health facilities. With the goal of reducing the risk of subpar medical services, this service opens a gateway to informed decision-making in healthcare.

For those seeking medical care, verifying the licensure status of practitioners is now as simple as sending an SMS which is toll free. By sending a text message in the format P#Name of practitioner to 20547, individuals can swiftly confirm whether a medical/dental practitioner or community oral health officer is duly registered and licensed to practice.

When it comes to health facilities, the verification process follows a similar straightforward approach. To verify if a health facility is registered and licensed to operate, individuals can send an SMS in the format H#Name of health facility to 20547. This accessible method empowers individuals to confirm the legitimacy

of the health facility they are considering for their medical needs. In addition, the status of a medical camp can be checked by sending an SMS in the format MC#license number of the medical camp to 20547.

The beauty of this service lies not only in its simplicity but also in its accessibility. Moreover, the service is toll-free, ensuring that everyone can access it without any financial burden.

For those who prefer an online method of verification, the KMPDC website offers an additional avenue. By visiting [kmpdc.go.ke/practitioners-php/](http://kmpdc.go.ke/practitioners-php/),

individuals can verify the status of doctors, dentists, community oral health officers, and medical facilities. This comprehensive online resource reinforces the Council's commitment to transparency and accountability.

In a healthcare landscape where choice and safety go hand in hand, the KMPDC's introduction of these verification services signifies a significant stride toward informed and secure medical care. By actively participating in verifying medical licensure, the public takes on the crucial responsibility of ensuring their healthcare providers' legitimacy.

This, in turn, contributes to the elevation of

healthcare standards and the reduction of subpar medical services.

As we embrace the era of patient empowerment, KMPDC's verification services epitomize the Council's dedication to fostering an environment where individuals can make choices that prioritize their well-being. Through simple SMS inquiries and online access, the public is equipped with tools that shape their healthcare journey for the better.





## Non-Compliant Facilities Put on Notice

**K**MPDC has intensified its battle against non-compliance by health facilities and practitioners in a bid to ensure quality healthcare in the country. Consequently, in the last year over 7,000 health facilities were inspected out of which over 650 were closed down due to non-compliance. In addition, 41 people linked to unauthorized practice were also arrested.

Inspection of health facilities is a vital component of healthcare regulation because it ensures that laws and regulations are followed, but also goes a long way to improve the quality and safety of services. In this exercise, health facilities and training institutions are assessed to confirm that they are maintaining the set standards. Every level of health facility registered under CAP 253 laws of Kenya must conform to the minimum requirements as stipulated by the ACT.

It is illegal to operate a health facility without registration and a valid operating license. Besides, all the health care providers working in a health facility must have valid practicing licenses from their regulatory authority. Every level of a health facility is expected to meet and adhere to the set infrastructural and human resource capacity requirements. Other key areas assessed during inspections are a facility's emergency preparedness, Infection Prevention Control (IPC), record keeping, decontamination and sterilization, availability of utilities such as water & power and sanitation & waste management.

Most of the health facilities which were closed down were not registered or did not have valid operating licenses. Some had unqualified and



unlicensed staff while some did not meet the infrastructural and sanitary requirements.

KMPDC has introduced an SMS short code that is toll free through which one can confirm the compliance status of a health facility. To verify the licensure of a health facility, send an SMS to 20547 in the format H# followed by full name of facility or H# followed by registration number of the facility.

KMPDC is committed to enforce adherence to the set health standards for achievement of quality healthcare in the country.

All facilities licensed by KMPDC are expected to adhere to all standards related to infrastructure requirements, patient safety, personnel qualifications and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) protocols and all other regulations as mandated by the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council (KMPDC), upon which they are granted their licenses.

## Medical Certification of Death Statistics: Key for Health Policy Formulation

**K**MPDC, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health Kenya and Vital Strategies, carried out inspections of over 140 health facilities on cause of death certification. This exercise aimed to assess medical certification practices in registered health facilities against the recommended WHO guidelines. As a Key Regulator in the Country, KMPDC is keen on the quality of mortality data provided by Practitioners through the various Health facilities, owing to the pivotal role the data plays in informing key policies.

The cause of death statistics is an essential instrument for health policy development and planning. These statistics are a rich source of information which can assist in the programming of the ever-changing health of the population. In addition,

quality cause of death statistics form a reliable source of information on the nature and efficacy of health care delivery systems that may guide resource allocation in the health sector.

Concerned about the quality of mortality data in the country, KMPDC has taken initiative to institutionalize medical certification of cause of death as a key element of good clinical practice. Some of the key activities undertaken included training of trainers (MCCOD Champions), integration of MCCOD in the training curriculum, introduction of MCCOD as a continuous professional development course and an assessment of quality of mortality data in Kenya.

Medical certification of death is a good clinical practice and a

requirement by law. The Births and Deaths Registration Act, Chapter 149 (CAP. 149) provides that that all births and deaths within the country must be registered within six (6) months of the occurrence. The certification of death occurring in health facilities should be done by medical personnel who fills the D1 form. CAP 149 envisages that these certifications be done by medical officers, in accordance with the WHO certification standards. It is important for the D1 forms to be correctly filled in by medical practitioners and a copy of the D1 form be retained in the patients' file. It is therefore important for health personnel to acquaint themselves with CAP 149 of the laws of Kenya and the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on Medical Certification of the cause of death.

## KMPDC Nurturing Inclusivity with the Unveiling of a Mothers Room

**I**n a significant stride towards creating a more inclusive and supportive workplace, the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council (KMPDC) has officially commissioned a brand-new Mothers Room. This dedicated space, located on the ground floor, aims to cater to the needs of mothers among the staff and other visitors. The room is equipped with essential amenities including a baby changing station and accompanying sanitary ware, a convenient washing point, a fridge, and access to drinking water.

Dr. Elizabeth Gitau, Council Member at KMPDC, spearheaded the commissioning of the Mothers Room. The initiative was also championed by Dr. David Kariuki, the CEO of KMPDC, who highlighted the broader implications of such facilities on employee retention and satisfaction while Mr. John Mburu, Deputy Director of Human Resource and Administration, played a pivotal role in overseeing the development and implementation of the Mothers Room.

In conclusion, the unveiling of the Mothers Room at KMPDC is a testament to the organization's dedication to fostering a welcoming and mother-friendly space. Beyond its functional aspects, the room symbolizes a progressive and considerate approach to workplace culture. The facility, commissioned by Dr. Elizabeth Gitau, Dr. David Kariuki, and Mr. John Mburu, marks a milestone in KMPDC's journey towards inclusivity and employee well-being.



## Revolutionizing Complaint Tracking: Harnessing Technology for KMPDC Disciplinary and Ethics Department

In the digital age, technology has transformed the way we live, work, and interact. From communication to healthcare, the impact of technological advancements is undeniable. The KMPDC Disciplinary and Ethics Department has embraced mobile technology to streamline the process of tracking the status of complaints, resulting in enhanced transparency, efficiency, and accountability.

KMPDC plays a crucial role in ensuring the ethical conduct and professional standards of medical practitioners and dentists in Kenya. To fulfill this role effectively, the Council has a system in place for tracking and resolving complaints against healthcare professionals. In the past, the complaint tracking process was often marred by delays and challenges in communication between complainants and the Council. Recognizing the need

for improvement, the KMPDC Disciplinary and Ethics Department has embraced online mobile technology to revolutionize its complaint tracking system.

This technological advancement has introduced several key benefits to the complaint management process: **Transparency:** Through a dedicated online platform or mobile application, complainants can now easily lodge their complaints and subsequently track their progress. This level of transparency instills confidence in the complainants that their concerns are being addressed.

**1. Real-Time Updates:** With online mobile technology, complainants can receive real-time updates on the status of their complaints. This eliminates the need for frequent follow-up calls and emails, saving both parties time and effort.

**2. Efficiency:** The automated nature of the online system ensures that

complaints are assigned to the appropriate personnel promptly. This reduces the likelihood of complaints getting lost or delayed.

**3. Secure Data Handling:** Data security and confidentiality are paramount when dealing with sensitive information. Online mobile technology allows for secure data handling, ensuring that personal and confidential information is protected.

**4. Improved Communication:** Online platforms facilitate seamless communication between complainants, KMPDC officials, and the professionals under investigation. This clear channel of communication can lead to swifter resolutions and better understanding of the situation. To streamline communication and eliminate confusion, KMPDC has used its official number 0727666444 as the sole point of contact for all interactions related to complaints.

## 1000 Trees Planted at Mathari Hospital

Under the leadership of Chair Prof Stanley O. Khainga and KMPDC CEO Dr. David G Kariuki, actively participated in the National Tree Growing Day Program at the Mathari National Teaching and Referral Hospital in Nairobi, Aramaket ECD College in Kangenguria, West Pokot County and Elgeyo Marakwet County. Present in West Pokot were Ms Mary Muthoni, Principal Secretary, State Department of Public Health and Professional Standards, and West Pokot Governor, H.E. Simon Kachapin. While in Elgeyo Marakwet was Health Cabinet Secretary Nakhumicha S. Wafula, accompanied by Elgeyo Marakwet Governor, H.E. Wisley Rotich. Proudly, KMPDC staff planted more than 1700 seedlings of different species during these impactful events. The exercise was conducted in line with Kenya's landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Programme-Towards the Growing of (15) billion trees. Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 was declared, a public holiday in which the public was engaged in tree growing countrywide.



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