

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL COUNCILS OF AFRICA

AMCOA PROTOCOL ON THE MANAGEMENT OF IMPAIRED PRACTITIONERS

29 AUGUST, 2013



AMCOA PROTOCOL ON IMPAIRED PRACTITIONERS

WHEREAS the Association of Medical Councils of Africa (AMCOA) is concerned with the professional integrity of a medical/ dental practitioner and;

RECOGNISING the –

- (i) Increasing number and burden of managing impaired practitioners.
- (ii) Need for timely identification of impairment and appropriate intervention.
- (iii) Need to effectively protect the public and maintain their trust;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the need for all medical and dental practitioners to practice safely;

NOW THEREFORE THE PARTIES TO THIS PROTOCOL DO HEREBY ADOPT THE PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED HEREIN AS A FRAMEWORK FOR MANAGEMENT OF IMPAIRED PRACTITIONER IN THE REGION:-

1.

Definition of Impairment

- 1.1 An impaired practitioner is a medical or a dental practitioner with a physical, mental or behavioral disorder that interferes with his ability to engage safely and competently in professional activities.

2.

Reporting

- 2.1 All practitioners have an obligation to report an impaired professional colleague to the relevant regulatory authorities.
- 2.2 Any other person or entity may report impairment and this may include the employer, a patient or a member of the public etc.

3.

Management Procedure

- 3.1 Every case of alleged impairment shall be promptly reported to the Registrar.
- 3.2 Upon receipt of a case of alleged impairment, the Registrar shall submit the case to the relevant committee.
- 3.3 The committee upon receipt of the complaint shall handle the matter as prescribed.



4. Imposing Conditions

- 4.1 In an instance where the regulatory authority finds the practitioner's condition to be that of impairment it may impose certain conditions of registration or practice which may be deemed appropriate to rehabilitate or treat the practitioner as well as secure patient safety.
- 4.2 Practitioner's conditions and management thereof may be reviewed upon receipt of reports from relevant therapist or supervisor or both, at intervals determined by the regulatory authority.

5. Enabling Framework

All member countries that are signatories to this protocol agree to pursue processes of aligning or developing legislative and other policy frameworks to facilitate the implementation of the principles enshrined in this protocol.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED AT HOTEL DES MILLE COLLINES, KIGALI RWANDA, ON THIS DAY, THURSDAY, 29TH AUGUST, 2013.

Country	Name & Designation	Signature
1. Ghana	Dr. Eli Atikpo	
2. Kenya	Prof. Magoha	
3. Lesotho		
4. Malawi	ABEL H.C. KAWONGA	
5. Mauritius	DR B. T. S. E. N. V. A. N. S. R. A. C. H.	
6. Namibia	AR KAWONGA	
7. Nigeria		
8. Rwanda	Dr. E. Rudakemwa Registrar	
9. Sierra Leone		
10. South Africa	Tholene Sodi	
11. Seychelles		
12. Swaziland	Jamuel Vuni Magazane	



13. Tanzania

14. Uganda

15. Zambia

16. Zimbabwe

OKELLO JOHNDR. PANGANI'D. NJIBUDR. A. MACHEKA

STO
Phishu
Muscheka.