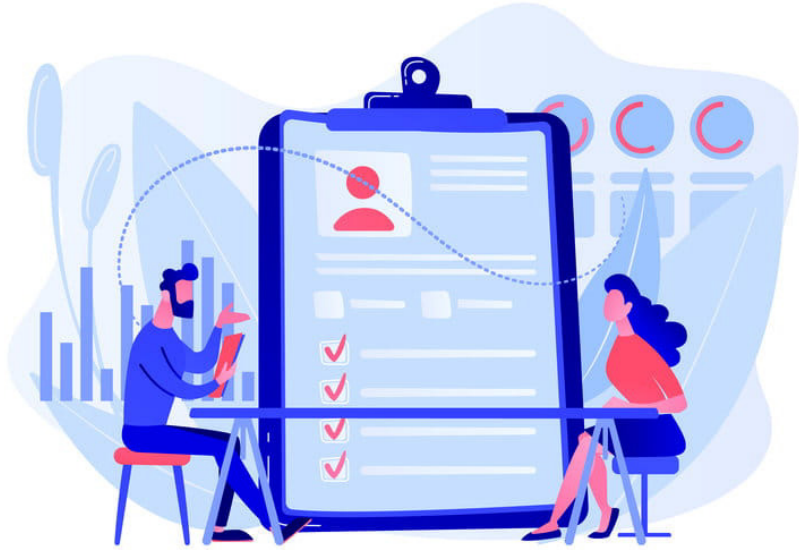


Quarterly Bulletin

VOLUME 8

AIDING COMPLIANCE: SUBMISSION OF SELF-ASSESSMENT TRAINING



As a regulator of health services, the Office of Health Standards Compliance (OHSC) plays a crucial role in ensuring health establishments comply with norms and standards regulations at all levels of care nationwide.

In accordance with the Procedural Regulations pertaining to the functioning of the Office of Health Standards Compliance and the handling of complaints by the Ombud, health establishments are required to conduct self-assessment. This process demonstrates their commitment to excellence and allows them to identify areas for improvement, promoting a culture of continuous improvement in patient care and service delivery.

In section 4(2)(j) of the regulations, health establishments are required to submit the results of the most recent annual self-assessment against the regulated norms and standards. Furthermore, in section 19(2), the application for renewal of the certificate of compliance must include an annual self-assessment of the health establishment's compliance with regulated norms and standards and its most recent quality improvement plans.

Health establishments are expected to submit their self-assessment results annually to the OHSC by **31 March**.

During July and August 2024, the OHSC conducted self-assessment system user virtual training for all private hospitals to provide compliance support and ensure that health establishments are well-equipped to submit the required information.

The virtual training sessions assisted system users in navigating the system and submitting their self-assessments. The sessions were well attended; over ten private hospitals have started generating self-assessments in the system, and close to ten hospitals have submitted their self-assessments. This marked a significant milestone for the entity's training unit, with representatives from various private hospital groups attending.

Training video clips have been uploaded to the OHSC YouTube page to help users navigate and register on the platform and conduct their self-assessments.

Follow the link to access the training videos:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSzWLRmogfTO1NvokA9plbw>

CALL TO ACTION!



Caring for our healthcare users means improving our healthcare systems daily!



Should you require assistance in submitting a self-assessment, feel free to contact Ms Izelle Loots at iloots@ohsc.org.za or Mr Jabu Nkambule at jnkambule@ohsc.org.za

ENGAGING IN QUALITY RESEARCH TO FURTHER THE MANDATE OF THE OHSC

Establishment of the Scientific and Research Technical Task Team (SRTTT)

The OHSC is mandated to promote and protect the health and safety of users of health services. To achieve this mandate, the OHSC advises the Minister of Health regarding the regulated norms and standards for health establishments. One of its duties is to conduct research into various aspects of quality assurance to provide a sound basis for evidence-based support to the Minister and the entire health system.

The OHSC's research vision is "to engage in quality research that aims to further the OHSC's mandate and functions." To attain this objective, the OHSC considers collaborative and interdisciplinary research with stakeholders nationally and internationally as one of its key priorities. Furthermore, the Synopsis of the findings and recommendations of the Consensus Report of the South African Lancet National Commission published in December 2018 under recommendation four (4) stated that "The OHSC should be encouraged to establish partnerships with academic institutions to increase its technical capacity in the short-term".

In light of the above, the OHSC Chief Executive Officer, Dr Sipiwe Mndaweni, established a Scientific and Research Technical Task Team (SRTTT) in terms of section 79.1 (3) of the National Health Amendment Act 12 of 2013 to assist the OHSC with its research management.



Scope of Work

The SRTTT's scope of work is to provide strategic technical support to the OHSC and its Research unit in implementing the OHSC's research policy to ensure the highest-quality results of research activities.

Member Composition

The task team comprises experts with research experience and skills from academic and research institutions. It assists the OHSC in identifying, accessing, interpreting, and understanding evidence related to the research work and providing valued technical inputs within the scope of the OHSC's operations. The task team is solely an advisory body and has no executive powers in the functioning of the OHSC. The task team meets once every quarter or as determined by the collective.

Establishing the SRTTT is yet another way to demonstrate OHSC's commitment to ensuring that scientific evidence recommendations support improvements in quality and other regulatory activities.

For further information, contact Ms Mantokeleng Matsaneng at mmatsaneng@ohsc.org.za

OHSC NEWLY REDESIGNED WEBSITE



Be on the lookout for our newly redesigned website, which will launch soon!
www.ohsc.org.za

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