



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY**

PRESS RELEASE

In order to address public concerns; on the conduct of practitioners; services offered at medical camps, professional fees charged by doctors; and, an efflux of patients seeking treatment abroad for medical conditions most of which the local health care system has capacity to manage: - the Cabinet Secretary for Health in consultation with the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board has gazetted key regulations which are geared towards ensuring patient safety and guiding the profession.

The regulations are;

(a) The Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Fitness to Practice) Rules, 2016

These rules are aimed at ensuring that practitioners have the necessary skills, knowledge and character to practice safely and effectively for the benefit of the public.

(b) The Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Medical Camp) Rules, 2016

These rules are for regulation medical camps to protect the public and to ensure that the camps are conducted by qualified practitioners and with the necessary equipment. The rules also provide for an avenue of redress where a patient has been mismanaged.

(c) The Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Practitioners and Health Facilities) (Advertising) Rules, 2016

These rules provide an avenue for practitioners and health institutions to advertise their services. It is hoped that by allowing such advertisements, the public will be better informed of medical services offered by practitioners and health institutions in the country.

(d) The Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Professional Fees) Rules, 2016

The rules provide for fees to be charged by practitioners for medical or dental services provided. The rules will also enable the patients to make a choice between receiving treatment in the Country or abroad from a point of information.

(e) The Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Referral of Patients Abroad) Rules, 2017

The rules will regulate the referral of patients abroad by setting out parameters in which practitioners may refer a patient, requirements for the said referral and facilities where the patient can be referred. In addition the rules provide for follow up mechanisms.

(f) The Medical Practitioners and Dentists (Private Medical Institutions) (Amendment) Rules, 2017

The rules set out the categorization of health institutions from Level 1 to 6 B. The rules detail the type of facility, services to be offered, infrastructure and the personnel needed to effectively manage the facility and provide services.

In conclusion, I direct the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board, National Health Insurance Fund and the County Executive Committee Members of Health to carry out fresh categorization of all health facilities countrywide using the new rules/guidelines within the next ninety (90) days

These rules are available at the Ministry of Health and the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board websites www.health.go.ke and www.medicalboard.co.ke respectively.



Dr. Cleopa Mailu, EGH
Cabinet Secretary
30th January 2017