



South African Society of Haematology

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«SASH_emails»

Dear SASH member

Resignation as President of SASH with immediate effect

In recent months there has been a lot of discussion about clinical haematologists forming a separate society. Clinical haematologists have valid issues.

One of the issues at stake was that of billing in private practice by various groupings in haematology. As I am not an expert in billing in private practice, I decided to get the opinion of an advocate. As there are contentions that I had no mandate to do so, I will pay for the legal opinion myself.

In a nutshell the opinion is the following:

1. According to ordinary competition law nobody can force someone who is qualified to perform a procedure to charge at a lower rate (e.g. GP fees)
2. Billing and codes are primarily related to the scope of practice of specialities or subspecialities. It is therefore important that the scope clinical haematologists (e.g. those decided upon about ten years ago) be formally submitted to the BHF to prevent misunderstandings.

I apologise if I have offended anyone, or done anything to harm the profession.

It is important that the interests of haematology as a whole in South Africa be promoted.

I therefore resign as President with immediate effect. A new leadership will probably be appointed at the meeting next weekend.

Kind regards,

Marius Coetzee