

The PSSA - pharmacy in action!

PSSA Newsletter #38 - 22 December 2011

Important information from the Pharmacy Stakeholders Forum

Dear Pharmacist

According to Regulation 10(2) of the Regulation Relating to a Transparent Pricing System for Medicine the dispensing fee as contemplated in Section 22G (2) (b) of Act 101 of 1965 must be reviewed annually. As pharmacists are aware, in terms of the Medicines Pricing Regulations, the Minister, in reviewing the dispensing fee, has to take into account the information supplied by pharmacists and in the absence of such information it may result in a non-representative data set being used.

In order to facilitate this process the Department of Health (DoH) requires the following information from pharmacies:

1. Number of prescription items dispensed
2. Total dispensing fee generated by prescription items
3. Number of items dispensed in various SEP bands

The DoH and the PSF have embarked on a joint project and UCS TS (previously known as CKS) has agreed to assist the DoH and PSF in sourcing a representative data set in order to assist the Pricing Committee in the dispensing fee review. The project, if agreed to by individual community pharmacists, will see UCS TS extracting data from pharmacies in an electronic format suitable for use by the DoH.

Individual pharmacies will still need to provide both electronic and hard copy audited financial statements independently to DoH. This should be sent for attention Mr S Mngadi at dispensing@medicalschemes.com.

A consent form for the extraction of the electronic data can be downloaded from the PSSA website (www.pssa.org.za). Pharmacists are urged to engage in this process in order to facilitate a meaningful review of the dispensing fee for pharmacists.

Pharmacists are assured that UCS TS and the DoH will keep all data strictly confidential as this is a legal requirement in terms of Section 34 of Act 101 of 1965.

Your name:

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