



SAMA MEDIA STATEMENT – INTERN ORIENTATION

19 April 2023

The South African Medical Association (SAMA) strongly objects to the planned “Medical Internship and Community Service Professional” orientation on the 20 April 2023.

Given that the orientation programme commenced in December 2022, SAMA believes that this matter should have been planned during that time. Hospital facilities will now be without the capacity of needed healthcare professionals for four hours in order for them to meet with the MEC for Health in the Gauteng province. SAMA is of the opinion that removing all junior healthcare professionals at the same time and on the same day will result in further harm to patients in an already weakened healthcare system.

SAMA therefore demands that this event is cancelled, and focus on the treatment of patients is strengthened, currently and in the long-term.

[ENDS]

Notes to Editors

About SAMA: The South African Medical Association ("SAMA") was established in 1927 and became known as it is today through the unification of a variety of doctors' groups on 21 May 1998 that had represented a diversity of interests. SAMA is a non-statutory, professional association for public and private sector medical practitioners. SAMA is registered a non-profit company in terms of the Companies Act. SAMA is a voluntary membership association, existing to serve the best interests and needs of its members in any and all healthcare-related matters.

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