

SHARING OF ROOMS

Many queries are received by the Human Rights, Law & Ethics Unit of the Medical Association from medical practitioners who wish to share rooms with a beautician, a pharmacist, a chiropractitioner and so forth. Ethical Rule 8 of the Ethical Rules published in terms of the Health Professions Act, 1974 as amended (the Act) clearly stipulate the entities that doctors may practise in (e.g. partnership, association etc) and Rule 8A states that a practitioner shall not share his or her rooms with a person or entity not registered in terms of the Act. That means that a practitioner may not share consulting rooms or waiting rooms or share an entrance to rooms with another person that is not registered in terms of the Act.