

STRIKING DOCTORS

In the past, it has transpired that many doctors participated in a mass strike action since they were not having any progress in discussions with government regarding the bad conditions they had to work in. This included lack of necessary equipment, severe shortages of doctors and other healthcare workers, forced overtime and so forth. This led to many doctors taking to the streets even though it is illegal for healthcare workers to participate in any strike action. Subsequently, many complaints were lodged against these doctors by their supervisors and/ or colleagues with the HPCSA.

Remember, once a complaint was laid against a doctor's name at the HPCSA, the doctor's name is red-flagged and this will stand until a response is received by the doctor to enable the Council to proceed with the complaint. Ignoring the letter will only delay the finalisation of the matter, on the contrary, a practitioner who did not respond could be found guilty even in his/ her absence. Furthermore, a doctor is prohibited from obtaining a Certificate of Good Standing if there is a red-flag against his/ her name.