# HEALTH PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL HEALTH MATTERS

HPC Council

**NEWSLETTER ISSUE 1/2023** 

## Thank You Past Board Members and Welcome New Members

On the 15th February 2023, newly elected HPC board members met with the former board members for a formal introduction.

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#### MESSAGE OF NEW HPC CHAIRPERSON

My sincere gratitude to our registrants, partners and stakeholders. On behalf of HPC, regulating all the Allied Health Professionals in Seychelles, I would like to thank all registrants and stakeholders for your continuous support and contributions towards the Health Professionals Council.

We are now pacing away from pandemic to an endemic state. The COVID-19 experience gave us valuable insights on individual empowerment, solidarity and collaboration amongst all Allied Health Professionals. This has propelled us forward in one of the most difficult period ever experienced.

With this mind set, HPC will continue to strive and uphold its mandate with the utmost integrity. Its primary role is to continuously ensure that all Allied Health Professionals are registered and competent to practice in accordance to Health Professional Act 2006.



HPC is committed to protect the public's interest and help ensure that this protection remains sturdy. Therefore, the public is urged to report any acts and/or behaviours of any Allied Health Professional who is deemed unprofessional and practicing without a valid registration to the council.

"One of the deep secrets of life is that all that is really worth doing is what we do for others." Lewis Carroll.

### FIRST HPC BOARD MEMBERS MEETING FOR 2023

The first board member meeting was held soon after and where by the new chairperson and vice chair was elected. The HPC also has three Sub-committees and the heads of each committee. The committees are: Editorial and Public Relations, Education and Training and Legal, Monitoring and Enforcement. All members form part of the different committees to ensure the smooth running of the diverse council tasks.





## REGISTRATION

www.hpcseychelles.org

IS YOUR HPC REGISTRATION UP-TO-DATE?

## MEET the BOARD



Morison Julie (Mr.)

HPC14/0027
Chairperson,
Member of Education & Training
Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement



Marie-Michelle Lailam (Ms.)

HPC14/0220

Vice Chairperson

Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement

Member of Education & Training



Patricia Rene (Mrs.)

HPC14/0276

Member Editorial & Public Relations

Member of Education & Training



Jeanne Fanny Al-Abdulla (Mrs.)

HPC14/0033

Head of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement

Member of Education & Training



Michelle Marguerite (Ms.)

Legal Officer; Non-Registrant Member

Legal Officer;

Vice Head of Editorial & Public Relations

Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement



Brigitte Gbilimou (Ms.)

HPC14/0193

Head of ·Education & Training,.

Member of Editorial & Public Relations



Marie-Antoine Bethew (Mrs.)

HPC15/0393

Head of Editorial & Public Relations;

Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement



HPC14/0082

Member of Education & Training

Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement



Shamini Naidu (Ms.)

HPC19/0679

Vice Head of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement

Member of Education & Training



Cynthia Sanders (Ms.)

HPC14/0127

Vice-Head of Education & Training

Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement



Eddy Marie (Mr.)

HPC220851

Member Education & Training

Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement



Laetitia Adrienne (Ms.)

HPC19/0688

Member of Education& Training

Member of Legal, Monitoring & Enforcement

## **WORLD HEALTH DAY**

Let us build a stronger, better primary health care system and make it work

The theme of World Health Day 2023, celebrated on 7th April, calls upon each one of us to contribute to the strengthening of primary health care in order to make our health system, as a whole, more resilient.

As we gradually emerge from three long years of the debilitating COVID-19 pandemic. which has left indisputable after effects on the physical and mental health of our communities, we are compelled to cast a closer look at the health of our nation and the health system designed to promote, protect and restore health. READ MORE



Minister Peggy Vidot

## LET YOUR EYES TALK The importance of Visual Assessment Test for kids

WHAT HAPPENS DURING AN EYE EXAM?

Article by : Anil Sanjeewa Ratnayake, HPC 16/0485



The Optometrist will perform the following visual assessments during your child's vision test.:

- 1. Visual acuity Test: Visual acuity refers to the sharpness of one's eyesight. The size of all letters in a row is smaller than the row above. Beside each row is a fraction, which refers to the way light waves are bent as they pass through your cornea and lens (front surface of the eye).
- 2. **Ophthalmoscopy** (Fundoscopy): This test will be performed to identify any retinal abnormalities when it is evident during the visual acuity test. When your Optometrist will put special eve drops in your eves to have a better view with dilation

#### Why You Need an Eye Exam:

 Regular test helps to detect and determine if any weakness or abnormality present with their Vision & Eye. There are instance where such children have lost the vision for their life.

#### IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE THROUGH EXPANSION IN SCOPE OF PRACTICE



Meeting with registrar and a member of HPC (Date: 27.03.2023)

Contributors: Dr. Cynthia Noshir and Miss. Anielle Laurence (HPC Registrants – Dental Hygienists)

Globally health care is constantly changing to adapt to the change in the burden of diseases. The need to find innovative ways to make optimal use of human resources with the aim of achieving quality output in terms of service delivery is fundamental to address this increasing disease burden. The change in burden of disease has heightened discussions about the impact of the scope of practice to improve access to health care. Improving access to health care can be done through the expansion in the scope of practice of mid-level professionals to enable task shifting.

#### PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

Oral health promotion activities are continuously being done to improve the ora health knowledge and behaviors of the population of Seychelles,







## **ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN ACTION**



#### **COMMEMORATING LAB WEEK**

In commemoration of 'The International Biomedical Laboratory Science Day' on the 15th of April, this year the SBSA hosted a laboratory week filled with a series of activities from the 14th -18th of April. It started with a 'bring & buy' as part of its first activity. This year's theme is "Guardians of Quality and Patient's Safety" which works along with what SBSA has all been working for as a team.

Furthermore, a group of volunteers from NIHSS from different programmes such as Diploma in Nutrition, Diploma in Biomedical, Diploma in Environment Health and Diploma in Emergency Medical Care came to donate blood, this activity was done in partnership with the Blood Transfusion Centre.





#### FOOD AND NUTRITION EXPO 2023- BON NITRISYON I MEYER DESIZYON

On Friday 21st April 2023, a live EXPO on food and nutrition was organized with the theme Bon Nitrisyon I meyer desizyon. The aim of the EXPO was to sensitize health workers on the benefits and nutritional values of food. The expo featured staff from the Nutrition Unit, Family health programmes and the Health promotion Unit from the Ministry of Health. The expo was engaging and interactive, and staff could ask questions and also participate in quizzes for prizes consisting mainly of the food items. Turnout for the event was very good, with attendance of more than 50 participants showing interest and support for such an activity.









### STRONGER TOGETHER MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Mental health during pregnancy and post birth is a major individual, family and public health issue. On the 25th of April Ms Gbilimou and Ms Bresson gave an interview on "Topik koversayon" explaining this years campaign. The launching of the Maternal Mental Health program is scheduled for Wednesday 3rd May during the Maternal Mental Health week (2nd to 8th May) under the theme 'Journeys to Recovery'. A weeklong campaign will be dedicated to raise awareness about mental health wellbeing and illness during pregnancy and postpartum.



#### **WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY**

31st May 2023 "WE NEED FOOD. NOT TOBACCO".



