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Dear Sir/Madam

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP OF HEALTH QUALITY ASSESSMENT (HQA).

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this opportunity to you, a valued role-player/stakeholder in the Health Care Industry. The HQA during 2008 amended its constitution to create an Affiliate Membership Category, thereby allowing all relevant role-players/stakeholders in the health care industry to effectively take part in and be formally associated with HQA's quality measurement activities and goals and objectives.

Affiliate Membership is now available to:

- Managed Care Organisations
- Network Management Organisations
- Hospital Groups
- Pharmaceutical Organisations
- Laboratories (Pathology)
- Clearing Houses (Medicine and other)
- Health Care Benefit, Clinical and Actuarial Consulting Groups
- Employer and Employer Representative Groups
- Labour Unions
- Consumer Organisations
- Industry Bodies
- Government Departments
- Academic Institutions
- Other relevant parties

At a fee of only R 18 202 per annum Affiliate Members will now be able to enjoy the following membership privileges: participating in all HQA technical workshops and qualifying for participation in the HQA Clinical Advisory Board; qualifying for appointment onto the HQA Board; receiving the annual HQA Industry Report; using the HQA Logo as a quality supporter mark; receiving regular updates on HQA's quality measurement progress and achievements and listing as an HQA member and receiving recognition on all HQA promotional material and being awarded with the annual HQA Certificate of Recognition as from 2010.

Affiliate Members will therefore enjoy the same rights as full members except the right to vote at an AGM. Affiliate Members are those who could associate themselves with the goals

Reg No 2000/025855/08

Directors: Dr FPJ Griesel (Chairperson) BA Dickson (Vice Chairperson); Dr B Modi;
Dr B Ruff, M van der Merwe; Dr RH Patel;

and objectives of HQA and who have paid the annual Affiliated Membership fee after membership has been granted to them.

BACKGROUND

Health Quality Assessment (HQA) performs an annual assessment of clinical quality in health care offered by medical schemes. The aim of such assessments is to assist decision-makers, such as trustees and management of medical schemes to evaluate and improve the quality of health care received by members. The HQA Report also provides valuable information to managed care organisations and other providers of health care. Studies from abroad shows that health plans and providers that participate in regular quality measurement exercises outperform those not participating, a clear motivation to join. The ultimate objective is to provide the consumer market with information on the quality of care they are able to access at various health plans. The complete process of data collection, actuarial analysis and compilation of the industry report and member specific reports is being done independently by Towers Watson on behalf of HQA.

HQA is a not for profit company and is governed by a Board including representatives from: the Board of Healthcare Funders of Southern Africa (BHF) and the SA Consumer Union. The Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) is also an active participant and enjoys permanent observer status.

The HQA Board has appointed a Clinical Advisory Board (CAB) from the member organisations' knowledge pool currently under leadership of Dr Jacqui Miot, to manage the progression of quality measurement on an ongoing basis. Individuals from member organisations wishing to join the clinical advisory board are welcome to contact **Dr Miot on 0836160008 or at jacqui.miot@gmail.com**.

The HQA Report offers more value each year. Measurements are developed on the basis of: appropriateness; being measurable; availability of data; being reproducible year on year; adding value to the report; driving decisions in managing quality of health care; having a clear evidence-based link from process to outcome; offering a clear indication of a direct measure or a proxy measure; having a clear explanation for its selection, value and method of measure; being linked to a clinical standard or guideline which endorses its use in clinical practice; reflecting the burden of disease in South Africa and being consistent with the HQA philosophy and mission statement.

Role-players and stakeholders in the health care industry should note the Department of Health's Policy Document April 2007 on Quality indicating that quality of health care is also high on the agenda of the National Department of Health and included in the draft Health Charter. A National Programme for Quality Improvement was launched by the Department of Health towards the end of 2008 and numerous follow up initiatives can already be seen. The HQA was identified as a resource which could assist the Council for medical Schemes and the Department of Health to evaluate its Quality standards, tools and indicators.

HQA offers participants and members an opportunity to pro-actively collaborate and to set standards for quality measurement that would compare with the best in the world and measure themselves with minimum regulatory intervention. It is therefore important that

the industry demonstrates its commitment to improving the quality of care through ongoing participation.

HQA again made significant progress during 2013 with 14 medical schemes having submitted data representing well over 4.2 million beneficiaries, which is over 50% of insured lives. A number of leading open and closed schemes are already actively participating in the process.

The following Affiliate Members have already joined HQA since the latter part of 2008:

- Agility GHS
- Aspen Pharmacare
- AstraZeneca
- BHF
- Carecross
- CDE
- IMSA
- Medipost
- Medscheme Health Risk Managers
- Metropolitan Health Risk Solutions
- MSD
- MSO
- SAMA
- Sancreed
- Sechaba
- Servier
- Universal Healthcare

Further details can be obtained from **Louis Botha on 082-453-5130 or email : lj.botha@iafrica.com.**

We look forward to receive your registration as an Affiliate Member, where after your membership will be confirmed and you will be invoiced and listed as such. As a paid up Member you will also receive the HQA electronic Communiqué and you will be invited to actively participate in all HQA technical meetings and work sessions. You will also receive a copy of the HQA Industry Report and you will be awarded with the annual Certificate of Recognition.

We are looking forward to your positive response at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

LOUIS BOTHA
CEO
0824535130
February 2014

Health Quality Assessment NPC



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2014 HEALTH QUALITY ASSESSMENT AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name of applicant: _____
(Please note a fee of R 18 202 (excl VAT) per year is payable to be an affiliate member of HQA)

Name : _____

Designation : _____

Date : _____

Contact details:

Tel : _____

Fax : _____

Email: _____

Physical address : _____

Postal address : _____

Please return this form to Louis Botha on 012-4602843 (fax) or lj.botha@iafrica.com.