



SESSION 2  
**SECTION 59 INVESTIGATION**  
 Day 10  
**Minutes of the Inquiry**

Date	Wednesday 25 September 2019
Time	13:15
Location	420 Witch-Hazel, Block A, Eco Glades
Chairman	Adv. T. Ngcukaitobi

Agenda Subject	Discussion
I. Call to order	Chair Adv. Ngcukaitobi called the meeting to order at 13:15
II. Presenters announced	Chair had the presenters and their legal representatives announced although they would not speak on their behalf. The JMH representatives were Vishnu Rampartab, Sunny Govender, Dr Jabu Thabethe, Dr. Thesi Reddy
III. Noting of submissions on file from JMH Holdings.	Chair noted that they (the Secretariat, Advocates Ngcukaitobe, Williams and Hassim) received files of their power point presentation.
IV. Introduction	Mr. Rampartab began to give a historical background of JMH that started in the '80s formed by black doctors, who began practicing from their rooms in different parts of KwaZulu Natal.
V. Demographics Membership	Black medical practitioners
VI. Key Issues of Discussion	<p>Mr. Rampartab mentioned a case concerning Ascot Park Hospital that started on the 14th June 2019, whereby allegations made by MedScheme that the hospital admitted patients without the referral of Doctors, this was raised at a meeting on the 4th July with the medical scheme. These allegations were based on the fact that the medical scheme could not find records of claims for these patients prior to hospitalization and on day one after admission.</p> <p>Mr. Rampartab went and got proof from the practitioners that they consulted the patients and their claims were out of hospital claims and others cash. He provided this information together with the doctors's referral notes to the scheme on all files requested from the audit. The medical scheme had already suspended claims for the hospital prior the audit, and some were clawed back. From this the medical scheme was not satisfied with the evidence provided to</p>

	<p>them.</p> <p>The second issue was the length of stay of patients: The medical scheme alleged that the patients were staying longer and that the hospital admitted psychiatric patients without being licensed.</p> <p>Mr. Rampartab said that they had provided an explanation to the medical scheme on this issue. Psychiatrists on the basis that there are no beds available at City Hospital, they would then ask the schemes for authorization to admit their patients at Ascot Park Hospital for a minimum stay and then be transferred into the licensed facility. And the scheme's management would accept the request from the psychiatrist in the first instance.</p> <p>The other issue raised by the scheme was that patients were admitted into ICU but high care claims were made by the hospital. Mr. Rampartab said that he had provided explanations to the medical scheme concerning this matter, that the hospital had only one high care bed and three ICU beds. On instances where the high care bed was already used, the hospital would then utilize the ICU bed, but still claim for high care services and not for ICU. He further wanted to find out that this did not result in any losses to the patient or the medical scheme.</p>
VII. Conclusion	<p>The strain placed on the hospital's finances resulted in them signing the acknowledgement of debt claimed by the scheme in order for future and current claims presented to be paid. All the information they presented on the cases for audit was not considered, and no feedback was given back to them as to which files were not satisfactory to the schemes.</p> <p>Adv. Ngcukaitobi asked why JMH did not report the scheme to the CMS.</p> <p>Mr. Rampartab's answer was that they were not aware at the time of audit that they could file a complaint to CMS because they believed that they had to get a court ruling first, and according to him could not afford a lawsuit.</p> <p>Adv. Ngcukaitobi asked if there were more issues or complaints that JMH wanted to bring to the table. Mr. Rampartab affirmed that they had brought forth all their concerns.</p>
VIII. Other business	<b><u>None</u></b>

Adjournment: Inquiry adjourned at 15:23

Next inquiry to hold on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2019 at 10:00