



Reference: Governance Compliance Instrument  
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## CIRCULAR 31 OF 2017: GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE INSTRUMENT GUIDELINES

The Council for Medical Schemes (CMS) has collaborated with The Global Platform for Intellectual Property (TGPIIP) to develop the Governance and Compliance Assessment Instrument (GCI) for Medical Schemes.

The GCI is an assessment platform developed by the TGPIIP, and comprises compliance guidelines developed by the CMS as well as governance principles developed by the Institute of Directors in Southern Africa (IoDSA) to measure the level of governance and compliance by the Board of Trustees (BoT) of medical schemes.

The GCI was intended to be the mechanism for a complete, credible and standardised process that facilitates better governance and compliance management by the BoT, as well as promoting transparency and accountability towards the schemes' beneficiaries and the CMS.

Medical schemes were encouraged, through Circular 16 of 2016, to subscribe to the GCI in order to facilitate BoT compliance with governance principles as outlined in the Medical Schemes Act, 131 of 1998. The GCI assessment platform is intended to serve as a supplement to the deployment of inspection teams in terms of Section 44(4) of the Medical Schemes Act, to monitor compliance and promote the attainment of the requisite levels of governance by schemes.

The CMS would like to express its appreciation to the medical schemes which have subscribed to the TGPIIP, by making use of the GCI assessment platform.

Since the introduction of the GCI platform, the Compliance and Investigations Unit has been receiving numerous requests for guidance and clarity in the completion of the CMS' questionnaire on the GCI platform. In view of these requests, the CMS has commenced a process to develop guidelines for the completion of the questionnaire.

The CMS is hereby inviting all medical schemes that are currently using the GCI, to submit all pertinent comments and questions to the Compliance and Investigations Unit. The questions and comments received will be used as reference towards the development of the said guidelines.

Kindly submit your comments and questions to Mr. Thapelo Metsileng (Senior Investigator: Compliance and Investigations) at [t.metsileng@medicalschemes.com](mailto:t.metsileng@medicalschemes.com) by 9 June 2017.

Your input and cooperation in this regard will be highly appreciated.



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