



Principal Officers  
Board of Trustees

Ref: **National HIV Counseling and Testing campaign**  
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## **Circular 12 of 2010: Request to fund HIV Counseling and Testing for medical scheme beneficiaries**

The Minister of Health is embarking on a massive national HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT) campaign beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2010. The objectives of the campaign are to mobilize individuals to know their status and link to treatment, care and support; encourage people to take proactive steps towards living a healthy lifestyle, irrespective of their HIV or TB status through HIV prevention messages.

It is in this spirit that the Minister of Health is requesting the country's medical schemes to support him in his effort to increase the uptake of HIV testing by covering the cost of HCT for medical scheme beneficiaries for the duration of the campaign. This should not pose a problem since voluntary counseling and testing for HIV is a prescribed minimum benefit. The business community, the private and public sectors are implored to contribute to this campaign by encouraging and making time available for their employees and families to go for HCT; by providing HCT at the workplace regularly and by contributing both time and resources to the campaign.

Please respond in writing to [n.mlaba@medicalschemes.com](mailto:n.mlaba@medicalschemes.com) by 15 of March 2010, indicating whether you are willing and able to provide these services as requested by the Minister of Health. This office will collate all responses and submit these to the Minister.

**C Burton-Durham**  
**ACTING REGISTRAR & CE**

A statutory body established in terms of the  
Medical Schemes Act, 1998 (Act 131 of 1998)

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