



COUNCIL FOR MEDICAL SCHEMES

Private Bag X34, HATFIELD, 0028
Hadebids Block E, 1267 Pretorius Street, HATFIELD

t: +27 (0)12 431-0500
f: +27 (0)12 430-7644

<http://www.medicalschemes.com>

Healthcare providers
Medical schemes
Administrators
Managed care organisations
Other interested parties

t: +27 (0)12 431-0407
f: +27 (0)12 430-7644
Enquiries: Michael Willie
Reference: Minimum datasets
Wednesday, 1 October 2008

Circular 27 of 2008

Invite to comment on the review of the minimum datasets project

Appended hereto, please find the [draft report](#) on minimum datasets for further comments or representations you may wish to make. This document serves as a process of obtaining input from stakeholders on the standard measurements of member access to healthcare services.

The criteria against which this minimum dataset document was drafted, follow.

The collected data should:

- be **comprehensive** in terms of service providers and facilities providing health interventions for beneficiaries of medical schemes;
- be **complete** in relation to the expenditure of private health insurance funds (benefits paid from the risk pool and medical savings account);
- allow for **consistency** and **comparability** (for cross sectional and time series analysis);
- allow for **common understanding** of what constitutes aggregated and disaggregated data;
- be aggregated to be **compatible** with national and economic indicators;
- provide **timely** and **accurate data** for decision-making purposes;
- consist of **variables that are sensitive** and **relevant** for **policy making** and monitoring of recent legislative and policy changes in the healthcare industry;
- be able to assess and evaluate the **trends** and **costs** of private healthcare delivery system interventions and services;
- record transactions across entities in the healthcare system and these should be **exhaustive** and **mutually exclusive**;

Chairperson: Prof. William Pick Vice-Chairperson: Dr Saadiq Kariem Chief Executive & Registrar: Patrick Masobe

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- be **replicable** (stable over time); and
- **accurate**.

The deadline for comments on the document is **Friday, 24 October 2008**.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact **Michael Willie** at m.willie@medicalschemes.com.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely

Michael Willie
Researcher
Council for Medical Schemes