



## PRESS RELEASE

Reference: Appointment of provisional liquidators for COMMED  
Contact: Alicia Schoeman  
Tel: 0861 123 267  
E-mail: [a.schoeman@medicalschemes.com](mailto:a.schoeman@medicalschemes.com)  
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### **Press release 17 of 2017: Appointment of provisional liquidators for COMMED**

The Master of the High Court has appointed Ralph Lutchman, Beneste Dicks and Phuti Dibete of Concord Administrators (Pty) Ltd as provisional liquidators to manage the winding up of the Community Medical Aid Scheme (COMMED).

The appointment of the provisional liquidators on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017 followed a provisional order obtained by the Registrar of Medical Schemes from the Gauteng Division of the High Court for the winding up of the scheme in terms of section 53 of the Medical Schemes Act, 131 of 1998, on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

Mr Lutchman can be contacted by email at [commed@concordadmin.co.za](mailto:commed@concordadmin.co.za) or by telephone on (012) 809 0936.

All enquiries and claims by potential creditors, including members and healthcare providers, should forthwith be directed to the liquidators for further action. Healthcare providers are urged to follow this route before any action is taken against members for claims that have not been paid by the scheme. It is also important to note that all COMMED members were transferred to Bonitas Medical Fund to ensure that their interests are protected with effect from 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017 and only claims for service dates prior to the transfer must be queried with the liquidators.

The Council for Medical Schemes urges any beneficiary who is affected in this regard to bring the matter to the attention of the liquidators with immediate effect and to approach the CMS if any further clarity is needed.

The provisional liquidation of COMMED was preceded by several processes including the placement of the scheme under provisional curatorship by the Gauteng Division of the High Court in Pretoria on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 due to material irregularities, criminal activities and the scheme's unsound financial position. Once the provisional curator was able to properly access the true financial position of the scheme it became apparent that the scheme was insolvent and that it would be in the best interests of the members of COMMED to wind-up the scheme after the members had been transferred to the Bonitas Medical Fund. The provisional order was granted on an urgent basis and the return date for the final winding up of the scheme was set down for 16 February 2018.

The CMS will continue to exercise statutory oversight regarding the affairs of medical schemes in general, to ensure that the interests of members of medical schemes are protected at all times.

End.

**Prepared by:**

Pulane Molefe

Manager: Communication

Council for Medical Schemes

012 431 0512 [p.molefe@medicalschemes.com](mailto:p.molefe@medicalschemes.com)

**For more information**

Customer Care Centre

0861 123 267

[information@medicalschemes.com](mailto:information@medicalschemes.com)