

National Department of Health

The Department of Health is registered with the Department of Labour as a designated Employer and the appointments mentioned herein will be in line with the Employment Equity Act (including people with disabilities).

RECRUITMENT OF POTENTIAL CANDIDATES TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE MINISTERIAL RECOMMENDATORY COMMITTEE (THE PRICING COMMITTEE) FOR THE TERM OF OFFICE BEGINNING EARLY 2025

The Pricing Committee (PC) is constituted as a recommendatory committee to the Minister of Health. The committee makes recommendations on medicines pricing matters as contemplated in terms of Section 22G of the Medicines and Related Substances Act 101 of 1965 (Act 101 of 1965), as amended.

In terms of Section 22G of Act 101 of 1965, the Minister of Health shall appoint members to serve on the Pricing Committee (PC) for a period not exceeding five years. According to Regulation 41 (1) of the General Regulations to Act 101 of 1965, the Minister of Health is seeking to appoint interested and suitably qualified candidates to serve as members of the PC during the terms beginning early in 2025.

The functions of the PC as stated in the terms of reference

The key functions of the PC as contemplated under Section 22G of Act 101 of 1965 are to make recommendations to the Minister of Health on matters relating to the transparent pricing system, for all medicines and scheduled substances sold in the Republic. Responsibilities of the PC include making recommendations on regulations that pertain to:

- Introducing and maintaining the Single Exit Price (SEP) legislative measures, to be applicable to all stakeholders except the State.
- The determination of appropriate dispensing fees for pharmacists and persons licensed in terms of section 22 C (1)(a) of Act 101 of 1965.
- The determination of an appropriate fee to be charged by wholesalers, distributors, or any other person selling Schedule 0 medicines.
- Recommendations made in terms of Section 36 (2) of Act 101 of 1965 which provides for the exemption of Medicines from the provisions of Section 22G and 18A of Act 101 of 1965.

The PC is further required, to recommend to the Minister and the Director General, methods to be used towards the implementation of international reference pricing of medicines and pharmaco-economic evaluations for medicinal products.

Member profile/requirements

Members are not appointed to act as representatives of any organization. Instead, PC members are appointed in their individual capacities based on experience, career background, and expertise in pharmaceuticals. Once appointed each member will be expected to fully engage in all discussions pertaining to the work of the PC wherein they shall apply their knowledge, experience and judgment on matters and topics considered by the PC.

Occasionally if not always, PC members will discuss and be in possession of delicate information. Therefore, it is mandatory for committee members to consider all PC recommendations, and deliberations confidential. In the interest of good governance, all appointed members shall be expected to make an undertaking to keep all PC documents confidential and to sign declarations of conflict at the beginning of each PC meeting.

Potential candidates should have understanding, background, experience and knowledge in any of the following fields: Pharmacology, Law, Academic Medical Research, and/or Economics (or Health Economics). Candidates with knowledge in Clinical Trial Evaluation, Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Evidence-Based Medicine, Finance and/or Accounting shall have an added advantage. Candidates with a postgraduate qualification in any of the afore-mentioned fields of study will be prioritized during the selection process. Interested members of the public are also invited to apply to serve in the PC as representatives of independent patient or consumer groups.

Term of office: Potential candidates will be appointed to serve for a single period not exceeding five years.

Remuneration: Members of the PC are remunerated according to the tariffs as determined and approved by the National Treasury from time to time on an annual basis. The department will be responsible for the travel and subsistence costs of members when attending meetings. Persons in full-time employment of the State will not be remunerated for their services should they be appointed as members of the PC. Potential PC members must note that the remuneration rates are equivalent to a stipend and should not be regarded as equivalent to a salary.

Potential candidates are required to take note of the following important matters:

- Candidates must be prepared to travel to the venue for the pre-arranged meetings to be held at the National Department of Health in Pretoria.
- Appointed members must be willing to volunteer or be nominated into at least two PC task teams, either as chairperson, vice chairperson or general member.
- At least 12 meetings (either face-to-face or virtual) will be held per annum. Excludes task team meetings.
- PC members will be required to deal in a timely manner with the reading of substantial documentation as well as the production of technical documents.
- PC members should be prepared to comply with the code of conduct, declare any conflicts of interest, and be willing to sign a confidentiality acknowledgment and undertaking.
- Candidates with conflicting interests may not be appointed.

Required documents

Complete applications must contain the following documents:

- Cover letter
- Comprehensive Curriculum Vitae
- Proof of qualifications e.g. certificates etc.
- Completed Application Form

Suitable and interested candidates should forward a comprehensive curriculum vitae (CV) and completed application form by no later than the closing date. The application form is available on the website: <https://www.health.gov.za/nhi-pee/#>. Applications must be submitted to: The Minister of Health: c/o The Director: Pharmaceutical Economic Evaluations, Dr Ntobeko Mpanza, Private Bag X828, PRETORIA, 0001 and emailed to Ntobeko.mpanza@health.gov.za and sepupdates@health.gov.za. Enquiries may be directed to sepupdates@health.gov.za or to Dr Mpanza at Tel: (012) 395 8209 or via e-mail at ntobeko.mpanza@health.gov.za.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 30 NOVEMBER 2024