

20 May 2024

Dear Member

### **Signing of the NHI Act and what it means for South Africans going forward**

Following the signing of the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill into law by President Cyril Ramaphosa on Wednesday, 15 May 2024, the Moto Health Care Medical Fund would like to reassure you that **your cover will remain in place**, and to provide you with a clear understanding of what to expect going forward.

The Scheme supports the implementation of a universal model that sustainably, practically and affordably extends access to quality healthcare to all South Africans.

At present, we do not feel that the NHI Act is suitably geared towards delivering on this promise. Our commitment is to continue engaging with all relevant stakeholders, and with Government in particular, to progress towards a system that truly benefits all South Africans.

### **Your existing cover is secure and remains in place**

Effective **implementation of the NHI will take at least another decade**. Please rest assured that your current healthcare cover remains securely in place. Importantly, we are confident that at the point where the NHI is ready to be fully implemented, medical schemes will continue to provide cover for benefits not covered by the NHI.

The state of our economy, coupled with the confined nature of our tax base, means that we do not see a feasible funding solution for the provision of extensive healthcare benefits through the NHI. As a result, medical schemes will remain a crucial component of ensuring that South Africans continue to enjoy access to comprehensive, world-class healthcare.

### **The NHI Act in its current form will face legal challenges on its journey towards implementation**

For the NHI to benefit the citizens of South Africa, it will need to evolve into a model that provides healthcare access to all South Africans, without infringing on the rights of medical scheme members. Much work needs to be done towards arriving at a collaborative model that would facilitate optimal participation by the public and private healthcare sectors towards meeting the diverse healthcare needs of all South Africans.

The complexity and enormity of an undertaking of this nature is something that challenges even the world's strongest economies. Finding the right balance between access to comprehensive healthcare benefits,

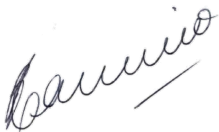
sustainability and practical delivery is a goal that will require continuous adaptation, innovation and collaboration for us to succeed in delivering on this critically important undertaking.

More sources of funding will be needed to ensure that we retain the services of enough qualified doctors and can continue to afford access to the increasing array of medical resources that are required to provide appropriate healthcare. Doctors and nurses need to feel that their future is secure, and in fact it needs to be appealing to pursue a career as a doctor or a nurse. That means we need to avoid unbearable working conditions, or ending up in a scenario where doctors and nurses cannot be adequately remunerated for the many years of study and the long, demanding hours that their careers demand.

Moto Health Care will continue to play a central role, alongside our industry peers, in pursuing improvements to the NHI in its current form, until we arrive at a practical solution that our country can implement sustainably.

We urge our members to remain calm during this momentous, long-term development that should improve the delivery of access to healthcare for all South Africans, while also retaining the services of the outstanding medical professionals without whom we could never succeed in this important goal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'B.C. Canning', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**B.C.CANNING**  
**CHAIRPERSON**