



**13 July 2021**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The National Health Care Professional Association (NHCPA) condemns all distraction of health care facilities during the protests.

The NHCPA represents all healthcare workers across South Africa. We support protest actions as prescribed by the constitution of South Africa. It is a South African right that is embedded in order to fight against all injustices. These protests have accounted for how we were able to achieve our democracy in this country. The NHCPA supports the protesting against any injustices that may affect our people.

The NHCPA condemns the criminal acts that have revealed its self during the demonstrations which have now extended towards distraction of private surgeries and pharmacies. This has a negative impact on the healthcare facilities not being able to deliver health services to the community in time. We are currently on the peak of the third wave and the COVID-19 numbers continue to increase daily thus putting a strain on the health services.

These criminal acts make it harder to treat patients and contribute to the death of patients that could have saved them. The past couple of days, logistic companies have suspended their deliveries to different provinces in the country - adding on the burden of the disease in the Country.

We therefore call upon the Government, protesters and the public to protect our healthcare workers and our healthcare facilities from the violent criminal acts so we may continue saving more lives.

**ENDS.**

**The NHCPA**

National Health Care Professionals Association

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