



**Medscheme**

HEALTHIER  
TOGETHER

# PERSPECTIVES ON NHI

25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022





# AGENDA



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02

Universal care

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Conclusion

# OUR TEAM



**Ms. Fezeka Nompumza**

Managing Executive: Clinical  
Risk & Advisory



**Dr. Mike Marshall**

Executive Manager: Research  
and Product Development



**Dr. Samukeliso Dube**

Group Functional Professional  
Specialist: Health Policy Unit



## PROVEN TRACK RECORD

Over 48 years experience

Driving to affordable  
healthcare

Partnership with  
healthcare providers

Built on data informed  
decisions

Service Excellence

Managing members back  
to health

## ABOUT US

Medscheme is South Africa's largest health risk management services provider and second largest medical aid administrator. We reach over 3.9 million people in South Africa, as well as Botswana, Namibia and Mauritius.

Medscheme is part of AfroCentric which is a black-owned JSE-listed investment holding company providing services and products to the healthcare sector

## OUR CLIENTS

*Bonitas*



# CREATING VALUE THROUGH PURPOSE



## OUR PURPOSE

Enhancing quality of life



## OUR VISION

Transforming healthcare



## OUR MISSION

To innovate a new integrated model of sustainable healthcare that measurably improves access to quality healthcare

# HEALTH SECTOR COLLABORATION FOR THE GREATER GOOD OF SOCIETY



## Supporting members

Providing access to credible information through multiple interventions for ongoing support



- Creation of a COVID-19 Resource Hub
- Direct advice to infected members
- Dedicated COVID-19 call center

## Protecting members

Targeted engagement to mitigate infection risk and nudge members to be vaccinated



- COVID screening at corporate
- Invitations sent to members to visit our vaccination sites
- 6 AfroCentric vaccination sites
- More than 150k jabs administered by AfroCentric

## Supporting providers

Collaboration with healthcare practitioners to facilitate access to care through new mediums and funding models



- PPE provision and lower tariffs negotiated
- Setting up of telemedicine and virtual consultations
- Laboratory negotiations in terms of COVID-19 test prices

## Supporting society

Engaging industry players to play a bigger role within society and a key player



- Collaboration with public and private sector for greater good of society
- Creation of additional vaccination sites for members and non-members (walk-ins) to improve access (100 affiliated sites)
- Collaboration with CMS in terms of PMB legislation



# AN INFORMED TRANSITION – AREAS OF EMPHASIS

## 1. ALTERNATIVE REIMBURSEMENT MODELS

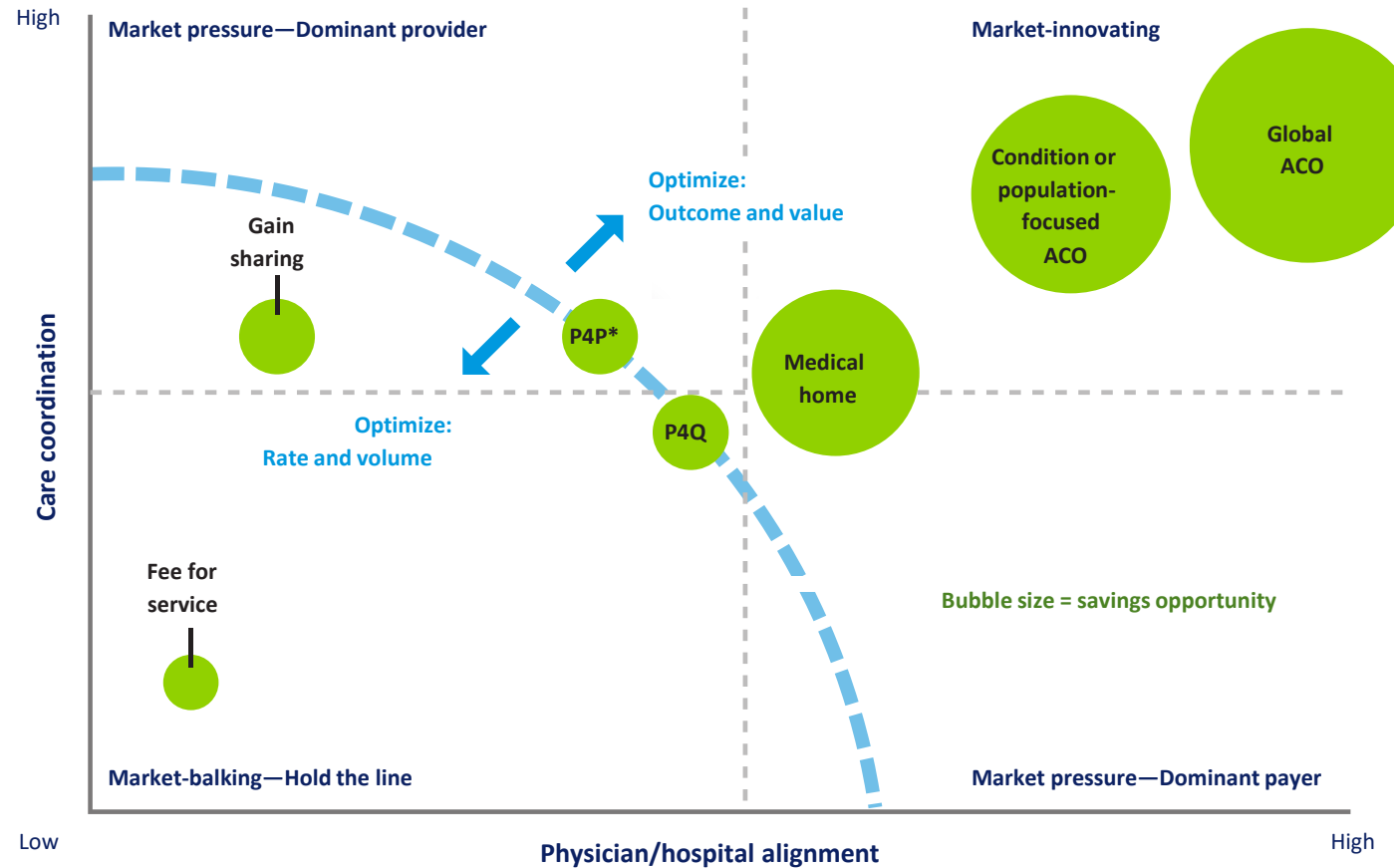
### HEALTH MARKET INQUIRY HIGHLIGHTS

The South African healthcare market has generally been exhibiting a trend towards a greater acceptance and implementation of ARMs though the efficacy thereof has been questioned, as discussed further in the chapter that assesses facilities.

Both funders and practitioners have indicated their willingness to adopt new reimbursement models, however there have been legal restrictions to doing so given the HPCSA's interpretation of the ethical rules on sharing of fees (ethical rule 7), business models (ethical rule 8) and subcontracting (ethical rule 18).

competition commission  
south africa

competition regulation for a growing and inclusive economy



# AN INFORMED TRANSITION – AREAS OF EMPHASIS



## 2. QUALITY AND OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT REPORTING SYSTEM

### IDEAL QUALITIES OF A PERFORMANCE MEASURE

#### Acceptability



Acceptable to both those being assessed and those undertaking the assessment

#### Feasibility



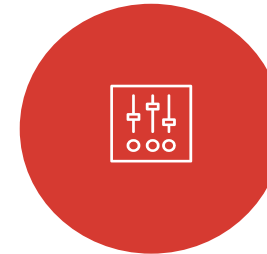
Valid and reliable consistent data are available and collectable

#### Reliability



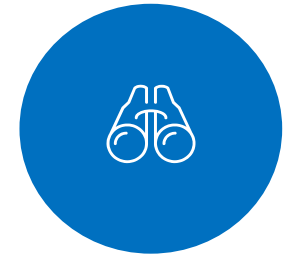
Minimal measurement error, reproducible findings when administered by different raters

#### Sensitivity to change



Has capacity to detect changes in quality of care

#### Predictive value

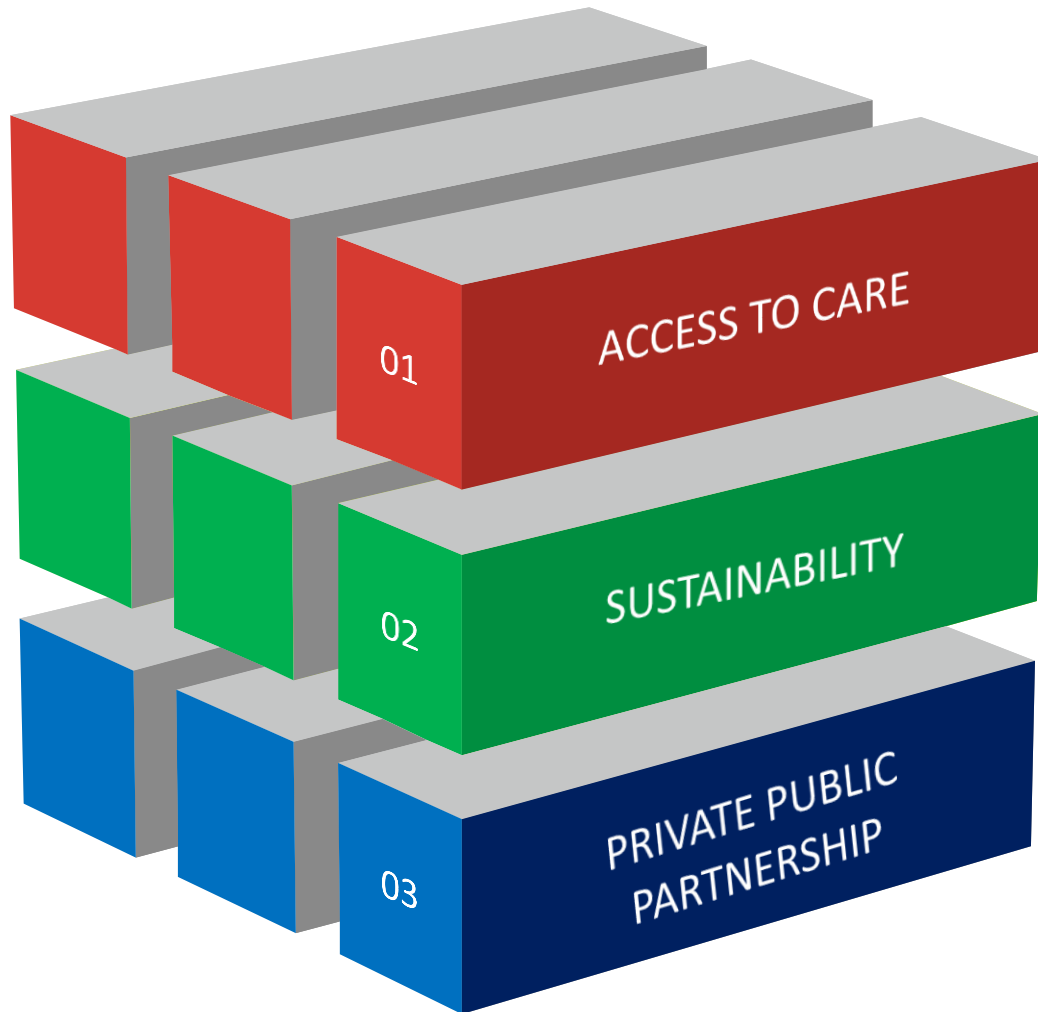


Has capacity to predict quality of care outcomes

Recommendations made in the HMI's Discussion Document include: that the quality measurement and reporting system in South Africa should focus on outcomes measurement, establishment of a new and independent statutory body to perform this function, mandatory reporting, staged implementation of outcomes measurement, and funding options for the implementation of a quality measurement and reporting framework



# OUR COMMITMENT TO UHC



Recognise that SA has a fragmented health system, and that we must all strive to make the health system more affordable, accessible and of a higher level of quality for all

Unequivocally support the need to move towards UHC in South Africa

- Phased implementation of NHI is critical
- Need an inclusive process to create an integrated and sustainable health system that offers quality, affordable, accessible health care to all

We are willing to work with government to make meaningful progress in the UHC journey

# COMMENTS ON THE NHI BILL - B11 - 2019



# SINGULARITY OF THE NHI FUND

NHI Fund is intended to be the sole  
purchaser & payer of health care  
services

## **“Single” implies “the only one” or “not one of several”**

- Implies no other entity can duplicate the functions of purchasing and paying for health care services – either in a complementary or duplicative form.
- By their nature and as per the provisions of the Medical Schemes Act, schemes are purchasers and payers for health care services on behalf of their members.
- Even in the revised definition of a business of a medical scheme that is in the amendment schedule in s.58 medical schemes will remain purchasers and payers of health care services, albeit within a complementary cover environment.

## **Recommendations**

- Amend the definition to exclude the term “single”
- ensures that even in a duplicative cover environment, whether transitional in nature or not, medical schemes will also be able to act as purchasers and payers for health care services on behalf of their beneficiaries without conflicting with the provisions of the NHI Bill and the Fund’s duties, functions and deliverables



## ROLE OF THE PROVINCES

Bill proposes significant and unilateral usurping of powers from Provinces to the NHI Fund which may go against this provision in the Constitution and disputes in this regard places implementation timeframes at risk

### Comments

- Bill goes to length in outlining the functions, duties and responsibilities of the NHI Fund, the DHMOs and CuPHC, albeit with some duplication, there is very elucidation of exact functions, roles and responsibilities that will be placed upon the PDOHs.
- Seems to ignore Chapter 3 s.41 of the Constitution which states that all spheres of government and all organs of state within each sphere must “(g) exercise their powers and perform their functions in a manner that does not encroach on the geographical, functional or institutional integrity of government in another sphere”.

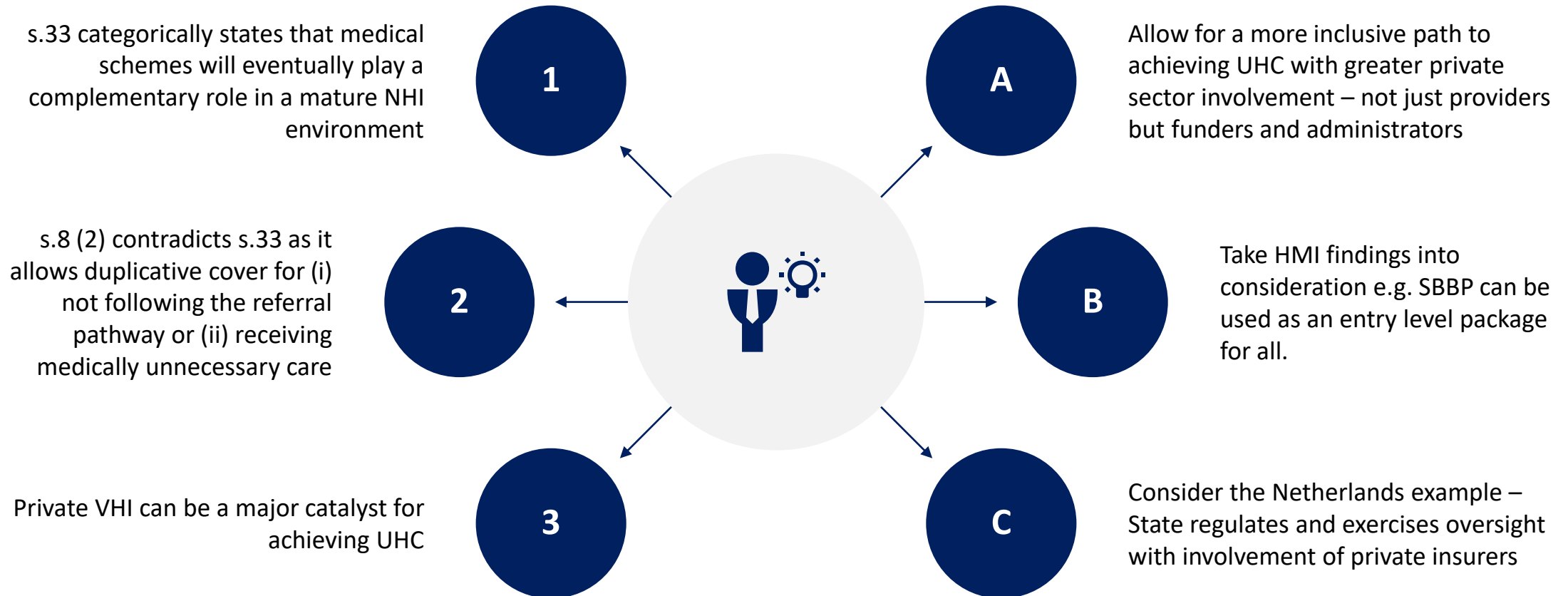
### Recommendations

- Institutional, organizational and operational reforms provided for in the Bill must not go against spirit of the Constitutional provisions with regards to a functional and effective fiscal federal system.
- Must be resolved by including a separate section in the Bill that clearly outlines the functions of PDOHs

# ROLE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

## Comments





## Recommendations



# ROLE OF OTHER STATE ENTITIES IN PURCHASING HEALTHCARE SERVICES



The Bill does not outline the role and functions, or what changes therein, will be performed by other State entities who by their nature and enabling statutes are involved in purchasing and paying for healthcare services.

|   | Comments  | Recommendations  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
|    | Compensation Fund (as provided for under the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993), and the Road Accident Fund (as provided for under the Road Accident Fund Act, 1996). | Bill should include a chapter or section that addresses this issue, not merely the amendments outlined in Section 58 |    |
|  | Very little detail is provided for in the Bill with regards to their role in the transitional phase and post the creation of the NHI Fund   | Outline a clearer delineation of functions and responsibilities between the Fund and these entities                  |  |



# APPLICABILITY OF THE BILL AND COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS PROCESSES



## Comments

**s.3 (5) states “The Competition Act, 1998 (Act No. 89 of 1998), is not applicable to any transactions concluded in terms of this Act.”**

- s.3 (3) it is stated that if any conflict arises between the provisions of the Bill and those of any other law, except the Constitution and the PFMA, the provisions of the NHI Bill will prevail. Why would exemption from the PFMA be required?

## **Bill does not recognise Consumer Protection Act**

- However, given the process that is outlined in the Complaints and Appeals section,
- Strong relevance and applicability of the CPA to the provisions of the Bill

## Recommendations

- Objectives of CPA relevant to the complaints and appeals processes in NHI Bill.
- Therefore, there must be greater clarity on the interplay between the provisions of the Bill and those of the CPA.
- Consider not making the Fund exempt from competition laws

# BOARD & RELATED GOVERNANCE ISSUES

## **PHC is defined to include multidisciplinary teams**

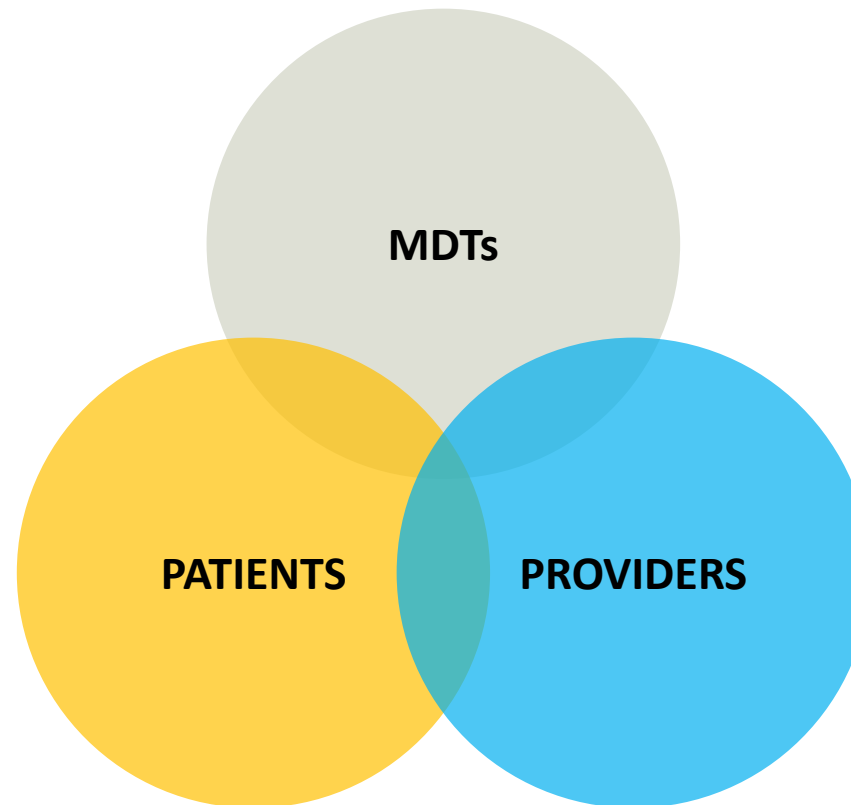
Bill does not define MDTs thus unclear whether the said practices should consist of all the named types of healthcare professionals (virtual or physical or both?)

## **s.5 (5) provides for documentary evidence to be used for registration purposes**

Sub-sections (a) and (b) seem to imply that users will be expected to provide both an identify card and an original birth certificate prior to registration.

## **s.39 (5) provides for provider accreditation and the HPRS**

Bill does not clearly outline how the required biometric information systems will be made available at accredited and contracted provider facilities, and how these will be paid for, managed and maintained



## **Recommendations**

Provide definition of MDTs – can use the definition provided by HMI panel

Clarify documentary evidence to be utilized for registration (“or” rather than “and”)

Clarify principles on how the biometric system will be rolled out and maintained for all providers, not just public facilities

# DUPLICATION OF FUNCTIONS (DHMO VS. CUPHC VS. FUND)



Roles of the DHMO & CuPHC re NHI Fund is unclear – this is particularly so when one considers the planned amendments to the National Health Act 2003 as outlined in the Bill

- Flow of funds from NHI Fund to DHMOs and/or CuPHCs unclear
- Governance and accountability framework not outlined clearly



Creation of the two does not minimise associated duplication and administrative costs

- Implies that there will be an estimated 252 CuPHC's across the country



Duplicated investigating powers in NHI Fund e.g. Investigating Unit s.20 (2) (e) vs. Risk & Fraud Prevention Unit s.20 (3)(i)



OHPP functions vs. NHI Fund and its units and others e.g. SAHPRA, OHSC

- Is the OHPP a new structure altogether or falls under NHI Fund's proposed units? If yes, why is it not provided for in s.20 (3)?

## Recommendations

- Streamline structures to minimize duplication and administrative costs
- Integrate functions of DHMOs with CuPHCs to better utilize resources
- Improve governance and accountability of newly proposed structures by linking to PDOHs based on envisaged purchaser-provider split



# CONCLUSION



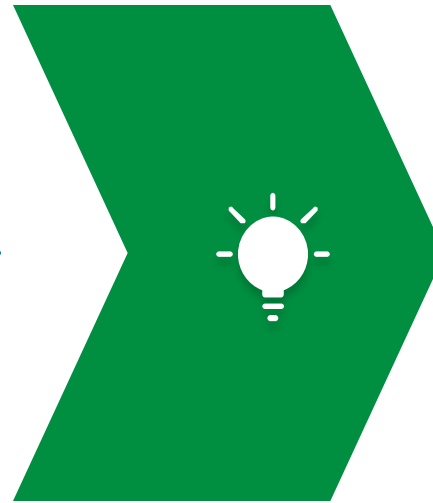
## *Contracting model*

Use Public-Private-Partnership to leverage the experience of the private sector and drive



## *Scalability*

Scalability of the solutions supported by robust operations, systems and processes



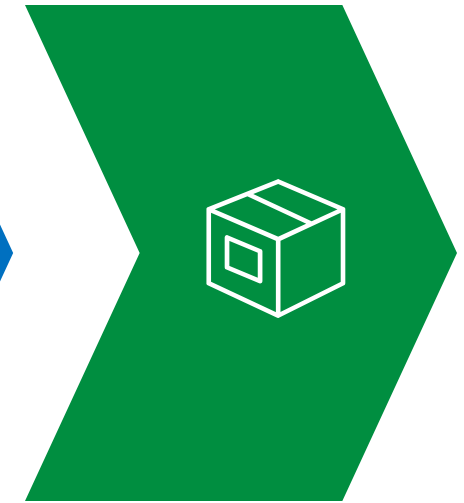
## *Reliability*

The proven track record of the private sector will allow the use of best practice through experience



## *Technology*

Technology is the 'magic link' between all stakeholders, and to additionally drive and showcase value



## *Integrated products*

Integrated solutions will allow for the maximum benefit per rand through, administration, wellness and health risk management



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**THANK YOU**