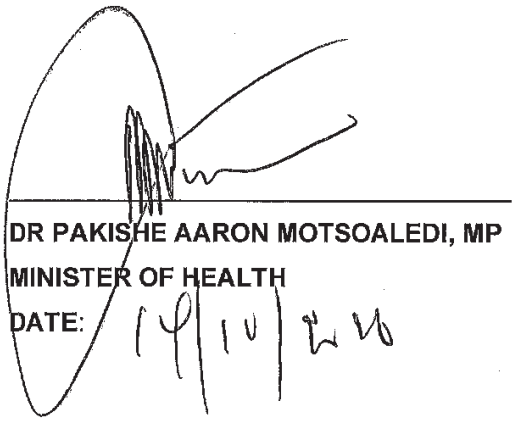
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NO. 8165 **13 November 2026**

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT NO.56 OF 1974)

REGULATIONS DEFINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROFESSION OF PODIATRY

The Minister of Health has, in terms of section 33 of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and on the recommendation of the Health Professions Council of South Africa and the Professional Board for Physiotherapy, Podiatry, and Biokinetics, made the regulations in the Schedule.



DR PAKISHE AARON MOTSOALEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH
DATE: 14/11/2026

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning and, unless the context indicates otherwise :–

"the Act" means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974).

Acts of profession of Podiatry

2. The following acts are specially pertaining to the profession of podiatry:-

(a) The diagnosis and treatment of foot, ankle, and lower limb conditions, and their associated anatomical structures using diagnostic and therapeutic measures;

(b) undertaking additional investigations (including biopsy and blood tests; ultrasound/doppler) as appropriate, or refer to other professional as required and, through a process of clinical reasoning, formulate a diagnosis or hypothesis;

(c) collaboratively developing and implementing a patient-centred plan which may include-

(i) debridement of skin and nails;
(ii) wound assessment, care and management;
(iii) foot and lower limb health promotion / education;
(iv) mechanical therapies for foot, ankle and lower leg;
(v) administration and prescription of limited scheduled medication;
(vi) injection techniques;
(vii) surgical interventions for foot pathologies;
(viii) electrotherapeutic modalities and physical agents;
(ix) gait assessment and retraining;
(x) manual techniques (manipulation and mobilisation); and
(xi) prescription and manufacture of foot and ankle orthoses;

(d) using appropriate monitoring procedures;

(e) making recommendations for self-management and empowerment;

(f) providing consultancy services;

(g) providing disability and medico-legal assessments and report writing; and

(h) diagnosing and treating foot, ankle, and lower limb due to deformities, pathologies, injuries and secondary complications due to systemic disorders.

Repeal

3. The Regulations defining the Scope of the Profession of Podiatry as published under Government Notice R361 in *Gazette* 3378 of 26 February 1982, are hereby repealed.

Short title

4. These Regulations are called the Regulations defining the Scope of the Profession of Podiatry, 2026.