



#### Producer and Publisher:

Allied Health **Practitioners Council** of Zimbabwe

For More Information please contact us on: (0242)747482-3/303027 +263 771 832 846 info@ahpcz.co.zw

> **Photographs AHPCZ**

Editors/Advertising Mr Mufaro Chimbindi Miss Farai Sepete Tamuka James Munamati

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Ms Farirai Maziriri AHPCZ Registrar

## **Dear Valued Readers**,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the third edition of the AHPCZ newsletter for 2024. In this issue, we will showcase the key achievements from the second half of the year, underscoring our continued commitment to raising public awareness and ensuring compliance among healthcare practitioners for the safety and well-being of the public.

Throughout the third quarter, AHPCZ has prioritized strengthening compliance through extensive nationwide inspections, safeguarding the public in their pursuit of health services. We have also intensified our efforts to increase visibility and foster engagement with stakeholders.

Driven by our mission to "provide regulatory frameworks and standards of practice for health professionals to ensure quality healthcare delivery in Zimbabwe and beyond. We remain dedicated to encouraging the public to seek care from registered health professionals.

This guarantees the highest standards of service and care. To further this mission, we have enhanced our communication strategies, including social media outreach, to remind the public of their right to quality healthcare and our unwavering commitment to upholding these standards.

Happy reading!







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# STUDENT ENGAGEMENTS

During the third quarter of 2024, the Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe (AHPCZ) successfully engaged with students across various training institutions, including Medical Air Rescue Services (MARS), Society for Pre and Post Natal Services (SPANS), EMRAS Training Academy, Harare Institute of Technology (HIT), and the University of Zimbabwe.

These student engagements are vital as they provide an opportunity for students to acquire essential knowledge about their regulatory board, ensuring they are well-informed before entering professional practice. Additionally, such interactions help students understand key processes, such as registration and renewal, and emphasize the importance of adhering to council regulations in a timely manner. These engagements play a crucial role in preparing future practitioners for the responsibilities and expectations of their professions.







# RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC

When seeking health care services, the public has important rights that help ensure their safety, quality of care, and accountability within the health care system. These rights are crucial to safeguarding individuals and ensuring they receive proper, regulated treatment. Below are the rights in greater detail:

# 1. Check if the Practitioner Has an AHPCZ Registration Certificate

Every health care practitioner who falls under AHPCZ must be registered with the Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe (AHPCZ) to legally offer services. It is your right, as a patient or consumer, to verify whether the health professional treating you holds a valid AHPCZ registration certificate. This certification ensures that the practitioner has met the necessary educational, ethical, and professional standards required to provide medical care. Seeking services from a certified practitioner reduces the risk of malpractice or substandard care.

# 2. Check if the Practitioner Has a Valid AHPCZ Practicing Certificate

In addition to registration, practitioners are required to maintain a valid AHPCZ practicing certificate to engage in the ongoing provision of health services. This certificate is renewed periodically, ensuring that the practitioner continues to meet professional standards and is up-to-date with any advances or changes in their field. As a patient, it is your right to request proof of a current practicing certificate, which serves as evidence that the practitioner is legally allowed to offer medical services at the time of your visit.

# 3. Ensure the Premise is Registered with the Health Professions Authority

Beyond verifying the practitioner's credentials, it is

equally important to ensure that the facility or health care premises is registered with the Health Professions Authority (HPA). A registered facility is subject to inspections and is required to comply with safety, hygiene, and operational standards set forth by the governing body. This means you have a right to receive care in a safe and properly equipped environment, free from any health risks associated with poorly maintained or unregulated premises. Always check for evidence of HPA certificate to ensure the facility is approved to operate legally.

# 4. Feel Free to Lodge a Complaint Against Health Practitioners

As a patient, you are entitled to raise concerns about the care you receive without fear of retaliation. If you believe a health practitioner has acted unprofessionally, violated ethical standards, or provided substandard care, you have the right to lodge a formal complaint with the relevant authorities, such as the AHPCZ or Health Professions Authority. This mechanism exists to protect patients and improve overall health care standards. Complaints can trigger investigations, corrective actions, or even legal consequences for negligent or unethical practitioners. Exercising this right contributes to improving the quality and accountability of health services for everyone. By being aware of and exercising these rights, patients can play an active role in ensuring that they receive high-quality health care and that the system remains transparent and accountable.











# **Breastfeeding Week**

Breastfeeding is a mother's gift to herself, Her baby and the earth.

# **Breastfeeding Week: Celebrating Health and Bonding**

World Breastfeeding Week, observed annually from August 1-7, aims to raise awareness about the benefits of breastfeeding for both infants and mothers. Breastfeeding provides essential nutrients, strengthens the baby's immune system, and promotes healthy growth. For mothers, it reduces the risk of certain diseases and fosters a close emotional bond with their child.

The week encourages supportive environments for breastfeeding, advocating for policies that enable mothers to breastfeed comfortably at work and in public. It also highlights the need for access to accurate information and support networks to ensure successful breastfeeding for all families.

Human milk is the first food of human life. Your milk is unique to your baby and their nutritional needs

> **#Dietitians #Nutritionists**





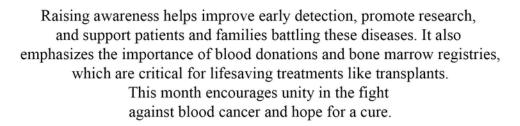


# BLOOD CANCER **AWARENESS MONTH**

## **SEPTEMBER**

Cancer cannot cripple love, it cannot shatter hope, it cannot conquer the spirit

Blood Cancer Awareness Month, observed every September, aims to increase public understanding of blood cancers like leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma. These cancers affect the blood, bone marrow, and lymphatic system, disrupting the body's ability to fight infection and produce healthy blood cells.















## ZIMBABWE AGRICULTURAL SHOW



The Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe (AHPCZ) took part in the Zimbabwe Agricultural Show (ZAS), providing a valuable platform to engage with various organizations and stakeholders. This participation allowed the Council to interact directly with healthcare practitioners, gaining insights into their needs and workplace challenges. Additionally, it enabled AHPCZ to raise awareness about its role within the national health sector. During the event, the Council also distributed educational and promotional materials to practitioners and attendees, further strengthening its connection with the broader community.





























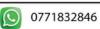


## First Aid in Mental Health Training Program

The First Aid in Mental Health program is an evidence-based training initiative aimed at equipping members of the public with essential skills to assist individuals who may be developing a mental health issue or experiencing a mental illness. This course empowers participants to recognize early signs of mental distress, provide immediate support, and guide individuals toward professional help.

In the third quarter, the Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe (AHPCZ) successfully conducted two sessions of this vital training. The first class took place in Bulawayo from July 3rd to 5th, and the second was held in Harare from September 11th to 13th. These sessions were instrumental in developing a growing network of trained mental health first aiders, equipped to offer critical assistance in their communities.

> Looking ahead, AHPCZ is committed to expanding this program and aims to train more individuals, thereby fostering a more informed and supportive approach to mental health across Zimbabwe.











# FIRST AID

# **IN MENTAL HEALTH**

An evidence - based training course designed to give members of the public key skills to help someone who might be developing a health problem or a mental illness

#### **COURSE TAUGHT BY**

**Registered Counsellors** & Psychologists



# Open To All!!!

- Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe
  - www.ahpcz.co.zw
- 20 Worcester Road Eastlea, Harare
- info@ahpcz.co.zw
- 0771 832 846
- 0242747482 0242303027













# The Importance of Nutritionists in Modern Healthcare

In today's fast-paced world, the role of nutritionists has become increasingly vital to individual and public health. With the growing prevalence of lifestyle-related diseases such as obesity, diabetes, and heart disease, the expertise of nutritionists is essential in guiding people toward healthier eating habits and better overall well-being. Nutritionists play a crucial role not only in preventive healthcare but also in disease management and recovery, making their contribution to modern healthcare invaluable.

### 1. Preventive Healthcare and Wellness

Nutritionists are key players in preventive healthcare, helping individuals understand the importance of balanced nutrition to maintain health and prevent disease. By providing tailored dietary advice, nutritionists empower people to make informed decisions about their food choices. Proper nutrition helps in boosting the immune system, improving mental health, and increasing energy levels.

Nutritionists offer guidance on nutrient-dense foods that can reduce the risk of chronic diseases, which are often caused or exacerbated by poor diet choices.

#### 2. Management of Chronic Diseases

For those living with chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases, nutrition plays a critical role in managing symptoms and preventing complications. Nutritionists work closely with patients to develop customized meal plans that meet specific medical needs while ensuring the diet is sustainable and enjoyable. For instance, a patient with diabetes may need help balancing carbohydrate intake to maintain blood sugar levels, while someone with heart disease may need to reduce sodium and unhealthy fats. Nutritionists translate complex nutritional science into practical strategies that patients can implement to manage their conditions effectively.

### 3. Support in Weight Management

In addressing the global obesity epidemic, nutritionists are instrumental in offering healthy, sustaable weight management solutions. They assess individual health needs, metabolic rates, and lifestyle factors to create personalized plans that emphasize long-term lifestyle changes over short-term, restrictive diets. By promoting balanced eating, portion control, and the integration of physical activity, nutritionists help people achieve and maintain healthy body weight, reducing the risk of associated conditions such as Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and joint issues.

### 4. Improving Mental Health and Cognitive Function

The link between nutrition and mental health has become an area of growing interest. Poor dietary habits have been associated with an increased risk of mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, and cognitive decline. Nutritionists provide expert advice on brain-boosting nutrients like omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, and minerals that support cognitive function and mental well-being. By helping individuals adopt a nutrient-rich diet, they can improve mental clarity, mood stability, and even reduce the risk of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzhei-





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mer's.





## **LIVE WEBINARS**

AHPCZ sponsors live webinars for different professions. These webinars are very important for practitioners and other people of the public because they are informative and educative and those who attend they attain continuing professional Development. The council successfully organized seven webinars catering to various professional backgrounds.

The following is a list of webinars that were held in compliance with practitioners:

- 1. Facebook live [AUTISM]
  - 2. Paramedics Webinar
  - 3. Counsellors Webinar
- 4. Hospital Food Service Supervisors Webinar
- 5. Radiographers, Ultrasographers and X-ray Operators Webinar
  - 6. Psychologists Webinar
  - 7. Facebook live [FIBROIDS]



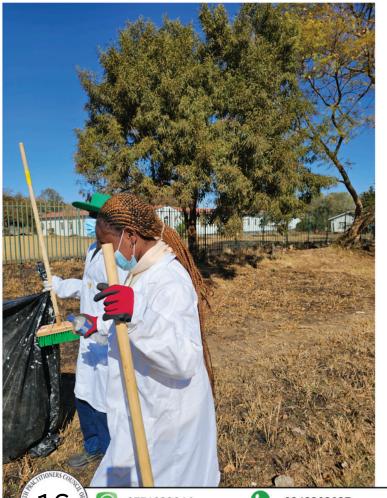












# **Zimbabwe Cleanup Campaign: A Collective** Effort for a **Cleaner Nation**

Zimbabwe's national cleanup campaign, launched in December 2018, is a nationwide initiative aimed at promoting environmental cleanliness and public health. Held on the first Friday of every month, the campaign calls on citizens, businesses, government agencies, and civil society to participate in cleaning public spaces and promoting better waste management practices.

This effort is in line with the country's goal to achieve a cleaner and more sustainable environment by 2030. One key organization actively supporting the campaign is the Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe (AHPCZ). AHPCZ has made it a priority to take part in the cleanup efforts every first Friday of each month, recognizing the importance of a clean environment for public health.

By leading and encouraging their members to participate, AHPCZ highlights the direct link between environmental cleanliness and the overall well-being of communities. The cleanup campaign has made a significant impact in reducing litter and raising awareness about the importance of responsible waste disposal.

While challenges such as limited waste management infrastructure remain, the campaign continues to foster a sense of national responsibility, helping pave the way for a healthier Zimbabwe.



# AHPCZ ACCREDITED QUALIFICATIONS: YEAR 2024



In addition to the already accredited qualifications, the AHPCZ accredited the following qualifications in year 2024.

# AHPCZ ACCREDITED QUALIFICATIONS: YEAR 2024

#### Africa University

Master of Science in Clinical Social Work

# Discovery Ambulance Services

Ambulance Technician Certificate

# Harare Institute of Public Health

Ambulance Technician Certificate

# ∀ Harare Institute of Technology

Master of Technology in Medical Dosimetry

- ✓ Master of Technology in Medical

#### University of Zimbabwe

✓ Master of Science in Clinical Neuropsychology

To register, dial '9911' 263 718 692 555

For a qualification to be considered for registration, it is necessary for the training institution to submit the programme regulations and list of lecturers prior to commencement of the programme.









WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY











# The Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe Board and Secretariat would like to congratulate the following for passing their Psychology board exams:

Esther Moyo

Gilian Nyemwerai Manyani

LILIAN DZIRIKURE

**MERCYLINE SOKO** 

Sam Takawira

Simon Muchesa

**PRINCESS MAHARA** 

Faustine Mhlanga

**ROSEMARY NYIKADZINO** 

Innocent Magura

Walter Beta

Thembile Gola

Yvonne Sanyanga

**LUCY CHITEHWE** 

Counselling Psychologist

**Counselling Psychologist** 

Counselling Psychologist

Clinical Psychologist.

Clinical Psychologist.

Clinical Psychologist.

Counselling Psychologist

Neuropsychologist









# 2024 BEST STUDENTS

In an effort to promote research, creativity, and innovation, the Council annually recognizes the top student from each class of AHPCZ-accredited qualifications. Congratulations to all the recipients of the AHPCZ Award for their outstanding achievements!



## Laura Ngwenya (Harare Institute of Technology) Therapeutic Radiography



Esther Taruvinga (Best Student ZIHAT) HIV and AIDS Counselling

## Mundindishe Joan Ngozo Chapata (University of Zimbabwe) BSC Honours Degree in Nutrition Science





# **AHPCZ Portal**



The Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe has launched a new portal that allows practitioners to register, update their personal data, and get help using it. The fact that people can now complete all necessary procedures in the convenience of their own homes is a significant development for the council and all of its practitioners. Additionally, practitioners now have access to all banking information on the platform, including online and bank payment options.

# Benefits of the portal

- 1. Convenience: Practitioners can now complete essential administrative tasks such as registration and updating personal information from their homes or offices, saving time and effort.
- 2. Accessibility: By providing access to banking details and payment methods (such as bank payments and online payments), the portal ensures transparency and facilitates efficient financial transactions between practitioners and the council.
- 3. Efficiency: Centralizing all these processes on a single platform enhances overall efficiency for both practitioners and council administrators. It reduces paperwork, minimizes errors, and speeds up transaction processing.
- 4. **User Empowerment**: Offering learning resources on how to use the portal empowers practitioners to navigate the system effectively, ensuring they can fully utilize its capabilities.
- 5. Modernization: The adoption of digital solutions reflects a commitment to modernizing administrative practices within the healthcare sector, aligning with global trends in digital transformation.







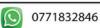




# 2024 CPD Points Chart

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is the means by which members of professions broaden the expertise required in their professional lives. This serves to ensure that both academic and practical qualifications do not become obsolete and redundant Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is an ongoing, structured combination of learning activities through which Registered Practitioners maintain and extend their knowledge and skills for lifelong professional competence. CPD can take many forms, from short courses to conferences, seminars and lectures. Engaging in Continuing Professional Development ensures that both academic and practical qualifications do not become out-dated or obsolete; allowing individuals to continually 'up skill' or 're-skill' themselves, regardless of occupation, age or educational level.

Ambulance Technicians	30
Clinical Social Workers	50
Counsellors	50
Dieticians	15
ECG Technicians	30
EEG Technician	30
Emergency Medical Technicians	30
Health Promotion Officers	12
Hospital Equipment Technicians	30
Hospital Food Services Supervisors	30
Intern Psychologists	40
Medical Physicists	30
Nutritionists	12
Paramedics	30
Psychologists	50
Radiographers	50
Specialist Ultrasonographers	50
Ultrasonographers	50
X-ray Operators	25







# Payment Platforms

#### 1. THROUGH BANK TRANSFER

#### a . STANDARD C HARTERED BANK

Account Name: Allied Health Practitioners Council Zimbabwe

Account Number: 0100209676900

Avondale Branch:

#### b. CBZ BANK

#### i. RTGS Account

Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe Account Name:

Account Number: 66161383840018 Branch: Avondale Branch

Branch Code: 6103

#### ii. USD Account

Account Name: Allied Health Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe

Account Number: 66161383840028 Branch: Avondale Branch

Branch Code: 6103

NOTE: Write the Practitioners' name and/or Registration Number when making deposits or transfers.

#### 2. PAYMENT THROUGH OUR ECONET BILLER SYSTEM

Make Payment

Pay Bill,

Enter Biller Code: 36143

Enter amount

Enter Account Number: Write your professional abbreviations,

name and surname as one word. NO SPACING

Send the proof of payment to

accounts@ahpcz.co.zw Copy registrations@ahpcz.co.zw

0242303027

N.B Kindly note that we do not have a Standard Chartered USD account.

AHPCZ only has a CBZ USD Account !!!











# GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK & LEAVE A REVIEW

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Or Visit us at

20 Worcester Road Eastlea, Harare, Zimbabwe

Website: www.ahpcz.co.zw

Phone: (0242)747482-3 /303027/ 0771 832 846

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#It is a right of every Zimbabwean to seek assistance from a registered AHPCZ Practitioner#









