

Clinix Health Group Statement on NHI

Clinix Health Group welcomes the signing of the National Health Insurance Bill (NHI) as the first step towards the realization of **Universal Health Coverage** in South Africa. We believe the proposed strategy to realise this noble government objective needs further refinement and alignment. The prevailing challenges and pressures inherent in our health delivery system, if properly attended to, will still meet the broad objectives that NHI aims to address.

The recent national experience in responding collectively to other national priorities such as the Covid-19 pandemic, the electricity crisis, and the logistics crunch, demonstrate that harnessing the efforts and resources of both the private and public sectors can be the most efficient way to address national needs. We believe a similar strategy should be adopted to address health system needs.

As a significant healthcare provider, Clinix joins other stakeholders in expressing concern that the new National Health Insurance Act retains significant health system risks, such as governance risks, concentration risk, funding risks and implementation risks.

Clinix is however well positioned to continue to offer quality healthcare in the marginalized communities where most of our hospitals are based, in the advent of NHI. We are hopeful that an appropriately structured NHI will indeed extend quality health services to these communities.

Lastly, we recognize that implementing the NHI is essential for the state to fulfil its constitutional obligation to provide equitable healthcare access to all citizens. We support government in this endeavour and note that there is a lot of goodwill, experience, and commitment on the ground that can be leveraged in addressing the fundamental shortfalls in our system, which need urgent fixing, and can be fixed.

Clinix is ready to partner with government in this regard and we trust that in formulating NHI regulations, our voice will be heard as private healthcare providers. We are preparing our hospitals to comply with the requirements of bodies like the Office of Health Standards Compliance (OHSC) and other processes to be ready to participate in providing universal health coverage using the NHI as a vehicle.



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