



Kenya Medical Association

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

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KMA Statement on the Social Health Authority (SHA) and the Journey to Universal Health Coverage

The Kenya Medical Association (KMA) is the umbrella professional body for doctors in Kenya, dedicated to a twin mission: championing the welfare of doctors and advocating for the highest standards of quality healthcare for all Kenyans.

KMA reaffirms its commitment to support efforts towards achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). We recognize the Social Health Authority (SHA) as the critical financial vehicle established to support the realization of UHC by pooling resources and mitigating catastrophic healthcare expenditures for all citizens. A robust, well-funded SHA is indispensable for building a resilient, equitable, and sustainable health system for Kenya.

For the SHA to fulfill its mandate and for UHC to succeed, sustained and adequate exchequer funding is non-negotiable. We commend the government's efforts and urgently call upon the legislature and the National Treasury to prioritize and allocate increased resources to the health sector, ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of this vital initiative.

We acknowledge that the SHA is a young institution facing anticipated implementation challenges. However, these challenges, including significant delays in remitting payments to healthcare facilities and systemic issues with the Practice 360 platform, have directly impacted healthcare providers' welfare and disrupted service delivery.

KMA has engaged the SHA leadership on these pressing issues and welcomes assurances that resolutions are being pursued. To mitigate these disruptions, we encourage our members to proactively engage with the claims system, ensure the submission of accurate and complete claims to reduce rejection rates, and participate actively in capacity-building opportunities on the claims process, which KMA, in collaboration with SHA, commits to providing regularly.

Furthermore, KMA offers its expert membership to support in claims adjudication and peer review processes to enhance efficiency in the claims management process as well as offering systematic feedback to streamline the Practice 360 platform and improve user experience.

Fraud poses an existential threat to the sustainability of any insurance fund. KMA condemns all fraudulent practices and reiterates the principles outlined in our prior [**KMA Statement on Medical Fraud in Hospitals in Kenya dated 20/06/2023**](#). We urge all members to uphold the highest levels of professional integrity and report any suspicious activities through the appropriate channels. We pledge to work collaboratively with the SHA to safeguard healthcare funds for the benefit of both patients and providers.

President Dr. Simon Kigundu	Vice-President Dr. Ibrahim Matende	Secretary-General Dr. Diana Marion	Assistant Secretary-General Dr. Elizabeth Gitau	Treasurer-General Dr. Lyndah Kemunto
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KMA remains a willing and ready partner to the SHA and all stakeholders. We bring to the table our collective expertise, a commitment to constructive dialogue, and a shared vision for a health system that works for every Kenyan. By working together to address these initial challenges, we can build a transparent, accountable, and effective Social Health Insurance framework that truly delivers on the promise of Universal Health Coverage.



DR. BRENDA OBONDO
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

KENYA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION