Professional indemnity cover 2013

In the latest Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) newsletter, it was advised that health professions working in the private sector should have indemnity in place. The Association for Dietetics in South Africa (ADSA) has arranged professional indemnity cover options for all ADSA members. It is important for members to note that while ADSA has taken the initiative to arrange suitable indemnity cover options for its members as a member benefit, it is the responsibility of each dietitian who wants to take this indemnity out to arrange this directly through Intersure. In order to take advantage of the rate negotiated by ADSA, members should contact Intersure at enquiries@intersure.co.za or on 0861 112 344. The contact person is Darius de Vries. He can be reached on 0861 468 377. This indemnity cover will be available to all ADSA members from 3 January 2013.

Public sector dietitians: a new portfolio on the Association for Dietetics in South Africa executive committee

ADSA has permanently included a new executive portfolio for public sector dietitians, effective from October 2012. It is understood that dietitians in this sector of employment may have different needs and challenges to those in other employment sectors. As this is still a new portfolio, we would like to encourage all dietitians who are employed in the public sector to provide input with regard to areas in which ADSA could offer assistance and support.

The main aims for this term of office are to:
- Establish a line of communication between dietitians in the public sector and the association.
- Keep dietitians in the public sector informed about relevant development in this sector, including information on relevant employer-labour negotiations.
- Update dietitians on nutrition-related polices and guidelines in the public sector.
- Establish a support network for dietitians in the public service.
- Further build on the representation of ADSA in relevant organisations.

Please forward any suggestions regarding this new portfolio to Ms P Malibe, the executive committee portfolio holder, to malibp@health.gov.za.

Claire Julsing Strydom
ADSA Executive: Communications

NSSA newsbits

New branch committees will be elected at the upcoming branch meetings of the three regional Nutrition Society of South Africa (NSSA) branches. Members are encouraged to respond to the call for nominations and to actively participate in the election of new branch committees who will plan nutrition events for members in 2013.

Five information sheets were posted on the NSSA website in 2012. The information can be viewed via the “Useful information” link. These information sheets received between 300 and 600 hits.

The topics included optimal diet for health; cereals and fibre, and vegetables and fruit in the diet; facts about sugars and carbohydrate tolerance. NSSA members are welcome to contact the NSSA council through the website, or directly at nssa@mweb.co.za, if they wish to contribute useful information on any-related topic in 2013.