

Harry Rosen
Consultant Chief Executive Officer
South African Optometric Association

Per email: harry@saoa.co.za
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15 January 2019

Dear Mr Rosen

SAOA BOARD STATEMENT ON PPN 2019 MANUAL

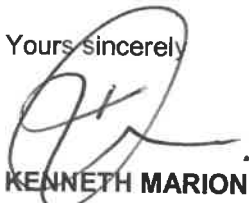
Your email dated 10 January 2019 refers. Your concerns regarding the Authenticate IT initiative and balance billing have been noted.

As you are aware, fraud, waste and abuse is a major risk within the private healthcare sector. Medical schemes together with their contracted service providers are therefore required to implement measures to address such risks. The Authenticate IT initiative is one such initiative. Your communication refers to the SAOA Board supporting the management of unethical practices, as such we urge to you engage directly with PPN and address your concerns.

The existing benefit design allows for balance billing. Members are allowed to choose any frame of their choice even if the choice is excess of the frame limit. Once the invoice has been settled, the full invoice value is then submitted to PPN for reimbursement.

I have also addressed your correspondence with PPN, who have indicated that a meeting has already taken place between yourselves and PPN on 10 January 2019. We respectfully request that both parties work together in addressing the concerns, this will assist in ensuring that the Fund continues to provide affordable and quality healthcare to our beneficiaries, this to support the increase in accessing private healthcare to the greater population.

Yours sincerely



KENNETH MARION

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

