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Ref. M3/4/3/2/13 (1159/12)

Dr A Motsoaledi, MP Minister of Health Private Bag X828 PRETORIA 0001

Dear Armon.

THE EXEMPTION ON LEVYING INTEREST ON OUTSTANDING PATIENT DEBTS: GOVERNMENT GAZETTE [NO. 23727 DATED 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2002] AS NOTICE NO. 1410 OF 2002

The National Treasury has received a request from the Department of Health to consider exempting all public sector users from interest on patient debt.

I have considered this matter and hereby approve that the term "State Patients", who are exempted from interest in terms of Government Gazette 23727, be interpreted to include lower income persons in the H0, H1 and H2 fee categories (currently this would exempt patients with annual income <R72 000).

Kind regards

Kravin

PRAVIN J GORDHAN
MINISTER OF FINANCE
Date: 26-4-2012