RE: DECISION ON ADVERTISEMENT OF HOME BASED ICU CARE FOR COVID-19 PATIENTS BY APEX HOME HEALTHCARE, UTUNZAJI HOME AND NURSING CARE AND WHOLISTIC NURSING CARE

The attention of the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council ('the Council') has been drawn to the various advertisements by institutions namely; Apex home healthcare, Utunzaji home and Nursing care and Wholistic Nursing care claiming to offer home based ICU care for Covid-19 patients at a prescribed fee for a minimum number of days.

We note that Intensive Care Unit (ICU care) caters to patients with severe or life threatening illnesses or injuries which require constant care and supervision from a multi-disciplinary medical team.

Intensive care is specialized treatment provided by trained health professionals who include medical specialists, critical care nurses, Pharmacists among others.

Further, the equipment used in ICU care includes the following and other medical consumables;

1. ICU bed with a flexible mattress
2. Uninterrupted Oxygen supply
3. Ventilator
4. Blood gas analyzer
5. Patient monitor
6. Infusion pumps
7. Defibrillator
8. Trained critical care staff
For this reason, it is NOT possible to offer ICU care at home as purported by the advertisement by Apex home healthcare, Utunzaji home and Nursing care and Wholistic Nursing care.

The Council wishes to advice members of the public to TAKE CAUTION that the above mentioned institutions have not been registered by any of the regulatory bodies and their advertisements are misleading and geared towards obtaining money by false pretense.

Having considered the contents of the advertisements and noting that ICU care cannot be provided at home, the Council hereby makes the following ORDERS;

1. Apex home healthcare, Utunzaji home and Nursing care and Wholistic Nursing care do pull down all the advertisements.

2. Apex home healthcare, Utunzaji home and Nursing care and Wholistic Nursing care shall each pay a penalty fine of Kenyan Shillings Five hundred Thousand (Kshs. 500,000/=) to the Council within 14 days from this date thereof.

DANIEL M. YUMBYA, MBS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
KENYA MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AND DENTISTS COUNCIL

Dated: 16th April, 2021