



# Driving Value Through Strategic Purchasing, Accountability and Sustainable Healthcare Reform

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# A System Under Pressure



Healthcare systems across South Africa face increasing pressure from rising healthcare costs, affordability challenges, pricing opacity, unequal access, and sustainability concerns.



The question before us is no longer whether reform is needed, but how urgently we can implement it responsibly and collaboratively.



***“Sustainability without equity is exclusion. Equity without sustainability is instability.”***

# From Volume to Value

- For decades, healthcare systems rewarded volume:
  - More admissions
  - More procedures
  - More utilisation
- Yet higher spending has not always translated into better health outcomes.
- Value-Based Care challenges us to redefine success through outcomes, quality, patient experience and accountability.

***Value = Better Outcomes + Better Experience + Sustainable Cost***

# The Human Face of Healthcare

- Behind every contract, reimbursement model, utilisation report, and policy framework is a patient seeking dignity, protection and quality care.
- Value-Based Care is ultimately not about systems alone; it is about people.

*Healthcare must remain financially sustainable while remaining deeply human.*

# Strategic Purchasing as a Catalyst

- Strategic purchasing is not merely a financing tool.
- It is a mechanism to:
  - Align incentives
  - Reward quality
  - Improve efficiency
  - Strengthen accountability
  - Encourage integrated care

*The future belongs to systems that purchase value, not volume.*

# Contracting for Accountability

Contracting has evolved from an administrative exercise into a strategic instrument that shapes

- Access
- Quality
- Innovation
- Provider behaviour
- Patient outcomes

Transparent and ethical contracting is central to building public trust.

***Good governance is not optional; it is foundational.***

# Collaboration Across the Continuum

- No regulator, scheme, provider, administrator, or policymaker can transform the healthcare system alone.
- Sustainable reform requires:
  - Shared accountability
  - Data-driven decision making
  - Collaborative leadership
  - Patient-centred innovation

*Transformation happens when institutions move from silos to shared purpose.*

# Research into Action

- Evidence must not remain confined to reports, journals or conference discussions.
- Research achieves its greatest value when translated into:
  - Policy
  - Operational reform
  - Better regulation
  - Improved patient outcomes

***The distance between evidence and implementation must continue to narrow.***

# A Defining Moment

- South Africa's healthcare sector stands at a defining crossroads.
- The decisions we make today regarding financing, purchasing, accountability and regulation will shape the future sustainability of healthcare for generations to come.

*This is not merely a policy discussion. It is a national responsibility.*

# Closing Reflection

- Let today's conversations challenge us to move:
  - From fragmentation to integration
  - From expenditure to value
  - From compliance to accountability
  - From discussion to implementation

Together, we can build a healthcare system that is equitable, sustainable and outcome-driven.



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**Thank you!**

