

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Titanium Award winners – a shining example to the healthcare industry

**28 July 2015:** Universal Healthcare was the big winner at the inaugural Titanium Awards Ceremony, scooping three of the coveted accolades. The winners were announced at a gala event that concluded day one of the annual Board of Healthcare Funders' (BHF) conference. BHF launched the awards earlier this year to recognise high standards on the part of medical schemes, administrators, managed healthcare organisations, hospital groups, the pharmaceutical industry, healthcare practitioners and the industry as a whole. The nominees included entrants from all the SADC countries. Former Deputy Minister of Health and Mayor of the City of Tshwane, Dr Gwen Ramokgopa, presented the awards.

"BHF congratulates the winners and applauds the contribution they are making to excellence and high standards in our country. With people of this calibre, our healthcare system can only go from strength to strength," said Zola Mtshiya, BHF Manager: Marketing, Branding and Communications. "In keeping with our conference theme of 'Partnering for Success', they are leading the way, having formed successful partnerships with the people and organisations they interact with."

The winners are:

Titanium award for service to membership – open medical schemes:

CompCare Wellness Medical Scheme

Titanium award for service to membership – closed medical schemes:

Massmart Health Plan

Titanium award for service excellence – administrators:

**Universal Healthcare Administrators** 

Titanium award for service excellence – managed healthcare:

Universal Healthcare Administrators

Titanium award for health facilities – public sector:

Witrand Hospital

Titanium award for excellence in corporate social investment:

Clicks Helping Hand Trust

Titanium award for 'young achiever':

Dr Lungi Nyathi

Titanium lifetime achievement award:

Professor Jan van der Merwe (Universal Healthcare)

Titanium award for advisory service excellence:

Alexander Forbes

Dr Lungi Nyathi of Insight Actuaries and Consultants describes winning the Young Achiever Award as an exciting and humbling experience, further to a rigorous nomination and qualifying process. "I had to answer many in-depth questions to create a fully rounded picture of myself for the judges and feel that my involvement in more than just healthcare, but also with the community, helped me to win," she said. She has high praise for BHF for having launched the initiative. "I know of no other awards comparable with these that honour work done in the health sector, especially by young people. The closest I can think of is the Mail and Guardian's annual list of the top 200 young achievers. So it's really great to have something by the healthcare industry for the healthcare industry. I feel such recognition will help inspire and motivate other young people and also encourage organisations to invest in cultivating young leadership."

"We applaud all the winners for the exceptional performance and innovation they bring to our industry," concluded Mtshiya.

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