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CLERK AT THE TABLE	K.C. NA

PARLIAMENT OF KENYA

THE SENATE

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT  
SIXTH SESSION

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

REPORT ON THE PETITION BY MR. MIKESON MUGO ET AT ON THE  
PAYMENT OF MEDICAL AND HEALTHCARE COSTS AND PROVISION OF  
HEALTH COVER FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES  
BY THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE FUND (NHIF)

Clerk's Chambers,

First Floor,

Parliament Buildings,

**NAIROBI.**

(3) Hon. Speaker  
You may approve for  
tabling  
MUGO  
15/6/22

COS Forwarded and recommended for your approval for processing 15/6/22 DC-EG

JUNE, 2022  
15/06/22  
16/06/2022

## PREFACE

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Senate Standing Committee on Health is established under standing order 218(3) of the Senate Standing Orders and is mandated to, “*consider all matters relating to medical services, public health and sanitation.*”

### **Committee Membership**

The Membership of the Committee is composed of the following:

1. Sen. (Dr.) Michael Mbitto, MP. - Chairperson
2. Sen. Mary Seneta, MP. - Vice-Chairperson
3. Sen. Beth Mugo, EGH, MP.
4. Sen. Beatrice Kwamboka, MP.
5. Sen. (Prof.) Samson Ongeru, EGH, MP.
6. Sen. (Dr.) Abdullahi Ali Ibrahim, MP.
7. Sen. Fred Outa, MP.
8. Sen. Millicent Omanga, MP.
9. Sen. Ledama Olekina, MP.

**Mr. Speaker,**

On 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2021, a petition by Mr. Mikeson Mugo et al concerning the payment of medical and healthcare costs, and the provision of health cover for persons living with Autoimmune Diseases by the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) was tabled before the Senate and committed to the Standing Committee on Health pursuant to Standing Order No. 226(1) of the Senate Standing Orders.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The petition sought to move the Senate to amend the NHIF Act to include persons who suffer from autoimmune diseases to be among the beneficiaries whom payments for

medical or health care expenses may be made to declared hospitals to cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests, diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy , doctor's fees, food and boarding costs.

**Mr. Speaker,**

In conducting its investigations, the Committee met with key parties in relation to the petition, chiefly: the Petitioners, the Ministry of Health and the National Health Insurance Fund. The Committee findings and determinations arising from this process are contained in this report.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

The Standing Committee on Health wishes to thank the Offices of the Speaker and Clerk of the Senate for their support during the process of considering this petition.

**Mr. Speaker Sir,**

It is now my pleasant duty and privilege to present this report of the Standing Committee on Health, for consideration and approval by the House pursuant to Standing Order No. 226(2) of the Senate Standing Orders.

Signed.....  ..... Date.....15/6/2022.....

**SEN. MBITO MICHAEL MALING'A, MP**

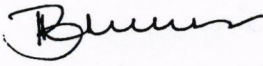
**CHAIRPERSON, STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

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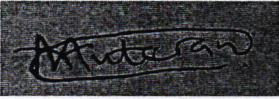
**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH OF THE SENATE**

**We, the undersigned Members of the Standing Committee on Health of the Senate, do hereby append our signatures to adopt the Report-**

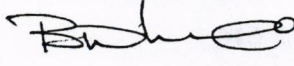
1. Sen. (Dr.) Michael Mbitu, MP

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2. Sen. Mary Seneta, MP

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3. Sen. Beth Mugo, EGH, MP

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4. Sen. Beatrice Kwamboka, MP

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5. Sen. (Prof) Samson Ongeru, EGH, MP

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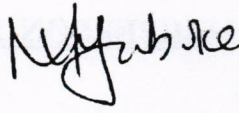
6. Sen. (Dr) Abdullahi Ali Ibrahim, MP

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7. Sen. Fred Outa, MP

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8. Sen. Millicent Omanga, MP

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9. Sen. Ledama Olekina, MP

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

MOH - Ministry of Health

NHIF - National Health Insurance Fund

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2021, a petition by Mr. Mikeson Mugo et al concerning the payment of medical and healthcare costs, and the provision of health cover for persons living with Autoimmune Diseases by the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) was tabled before the Senate and committed to the Standing Committee on Health pursuant to Standing Order No. 226(1) of the Senate Standing Orders.

The petition was broadly in relation to the challenges faced by patients with autoimmune diseases as they seek health care. To this effect, the petitioners averred that:-

- (a) They were persons living with and caring for persons living with an autoimmune disease in Kenya;
  - (b) Article 43 of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services and one way to access the right to health care services is through the enactment of the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) that is established under the National Hospital Insurance Fund Act of 1998;
  - (c) One of the functions of the Board established thereunder is to make payments that include medical or health care expenses that cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests and diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy care and doctor's fees, food and boarding costs, out of the Fund to declared hospitals in accordance with the provisions of the NHIF Act;
  - (d) That an autoimmune disease occurs where the immune system mistakes part of your body, for example your joints or your skin, as foreign bodies. The immune system releases proteins called antibodies that attack your cells. That there is no cure for an autoimmune disease and despite all research that that is ongoing, doctors still do not understand what causes the immune system to act in an abnormal manner. That there are over 80 types of autoimmune diseases and there is no single test to determine that a person has an autoimmune disease and doctors often rely on clinical diagnosis. The latter makes it hard for a health care provider to know if a person really has
-

an autoimmune disease and getting a diagnosis is often expensive, frustrating and stressful;

- (e) There is no cure for autoimmune diseases and the cost of managing an autoimmune disease is extremely high. In a month a person who suffers from an autoimmune disease incurs costs of up to KShs. 100,000 for medications to regulate the response of the immune system, KShs. 350,000 for medication to prevent flare-ups, and KShs. 70,000 for speech therapy drugs to manage slurring;
- (f) A person who suffers from an autoimmune disease has to undergo several tests such as regular MRIs that are costly, and may incur monthly costs ranging from KShs. 400,000 to KShs. 1,000,000 for treatment, yet a majority of the insurance companies do not offer medical cover for patients with autoimmune disease and such a person finds it very difficult to finance their treatment. A person is therefore torn between paying for medication, an appropriate diet or seeing a doctor;
- (g) NHIF does not pay for medical or health care expenses for a person who suffers from an autoimmune disease unless that person is undergoing dialysis or undergoes a procedure that is covered under the national scheme;
- (h) The Petitioners have attempted to engage the National Hospital Insurance Fund and the Ministry of Health with no success; and
- (i) The matter is not pending before any court of law constitutional or legal body.

In their prayers, the petitioners requested that the Senate :

1. To investigate the matters raised in this Petition;
2. To amend the NHIF Act to include persons who suffer from an include persons who suffer from autoimmune diseases to be among the beneficiaries whom payments for medical or health care expenses may be made to declared hospitals to cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests, diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy , doctor's fees, food and boarding costs.



3. Makes any other resolution that enhances access of persons who suffer from an autoimmune disease to access medical or health care expenses.

In respect of the prayers made in the petition, the Committee made the following determinations:

1. ***Prayer One: To investigate the matters raised in this Petition***

**Committee Response:** In seeking to address the issues raised in this Petition, on diverse dates, the Committee held meetings with the Petitioner, the Ministry of Health and the National Health Insurance Fund. The Committee findings and determinations arising from this process are contained in this report.

2. ***Prayer Two: To amend the NHIF Act to include persons who suffer from an include persons who suffer from autoimmune diseases to be among the beneficiaries whom payments for medical or health care expenses may be made to declared hospitals to cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests, diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy, doctor's fees, food and boarding costs.***

**Committee Response:** In respect of this prayer, the Committee noted that NHIF only covers auto-immune disease in the benefits packages that it offers under its managed schemes e.g. Civil Servant Cover.

However, for patients on ordinary NHIF cover, the benefit package is limited to dialysis, or procedures currently covered under the national scheme. This has left patients with autoimmune diseases unable to access needed treatment, and exposed them to catastrophic health expenditure.

The Committee further noted that unlike cancer patients who had been granted access to drugs and chemotherapy under NHIF, no special provision had been made for patients with autoimmune disease. This was in itself discriminatory.

Noting that section 22 sub-section 3 of the National Hospital Insurance Fund Act already provides for *the benefits payable from the Fund (to) be limited to expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests and diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment; physiotherapy care and doctors' fees, food and boarding costs, subject to such limits, regulations and conditions as the*

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*Board may, in consultation with the Minister, prescribe,* the Committee observed that in consultation with the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Health, the NHIF Board needs to develop a special cover for patients with autoimmune disease that is aimed at ensuring that they receive the highest attainable standards of care in line with Article 43 of the Constitution, without incurring catastrophic health expenditure.

3. *Prayer Three: To make any other resolution that enhances access of persons who suffer from an autoimmune disease to access medical or health care expenses.*

**Committee Response:** In respect of this prayer, the Committee noted that safeguards need to be put in place to protect patients with auto-immune disease from the devastating socio-economic impact of the disease, and catastrophic health expenditure. To this end, the Committee observed that:

- a) There is a need for the MoH, the Council of Governors (COG) and County Governments to act to ensure that the drugs, laboratory supplies and reagents necessary for the treatment and management of autoimmune diseases are prioritized for procurement, and are availed at all public health facilities through Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA);
- b) There is a need for the MoH to act urgently to ensure access to, and affordability of specialized care for patients with autoimmune diseases;
- c) Owing to the inherent and disproportionate risk that persons with autoimmune disease face of developing severe disability, there is need for the MoH and the National Council for Persons with Disability to put mechanisms in place to provide for the early detection of autoimmune disease with a view towards recognising, mitigating, and providing socio-economic relief for affected persons from the debilitating effects of the disease(s) before they progress to actual disability; and
- d) There is a need for the MoH and County Governments to act to ensure that patients with autoimmune diseases are able to access professional counseling services at all public hospitals; and,

In light of the above, the Committee resolved that:

1. This report be dispatched to the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) for purposes of developing and rolling out a special cover for patients with autoimmune diseases within a period of **six months**. This cover should be aimed at ensuring that patients with autoimmune diseases receive the highest attainable standards of care in line with Article 43 of the Constitution, without incurring catastrophic health expenditure.
  2. This report be dispatched to the Ministry of Health for purposes of reporting back to the Senate on the progress it has made in respect of: ensuring the prioritization and procurement of health products and technologies necessary for the management and care of patients with autoimmune diseases at all public health facilities; scaling-up the availability of Specialist care; facilitating assessment processes for patients with autoimmune diseases for purposes of the providing for the early detection, recognition, mitigation and socio-economic relief of patients suffering from the debilitating effects of autoimmune disease before they progress to actual disability; and, ensuring access to professional counseling and psychology services for persons with auto-immune disease within **six months** receipt of this report.
-

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1. Background**

On 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2021, a petition by Mr. Mikeson Mugo et al concerning the payment of medical and healthcare costs, and the provision of health cover for persons living with Autoimmune Diseases by the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) was tabled before the Senate and committed to the Standing Committee on Health pursuant to Standing Order No. 226(1) of the Senate Standing Orders.

The petition was broadly in relation to the challenges faced by patients with autoimmune diseases as they seek health care. To this effect, the petitioners averred that:-

#### **2. Allegations Raised in the Petition**

The allegations raised by the Petitioner as contained in the petition are provided below: -

- (a) They were persons living with and caring for persons living with an autoimmune disease in Kenya;
- (b) Article 43 of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services and one way to access the right to health care services is through the enactment of the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) that is established under the National Hospital Insurance Fund Act of 1998;
- (c) One of the functions of the Board established thereunder is to make payments that include medical or health care expenses that cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests and diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy care and doctor's fees, food and boarding costs, out of the Fund to declared hospitals in accordance with the provisions of the NHIF Act;

- (d) That an autoimmune disease occurs where the immune system mistakes part of your body, for example your joints or your skin, as foreign bodies. The immune system releases proteins called antibodies that attack your cells. That there is no cure for an autoimmune disease and despite all research that that is ongoing, doctors still do not understand what causes the immune system to act in an abnormal manner. That there are over 80 types of autoimmune diseases and there is no single test to determine that a person has an autoimmune disease and doctors often rely on clinical diagnosis. The latter makes it hard for a health care provider to know if a person really has an autoimmune disease and getting a diagnosis is often expensive, frustrating and stressful;
- (e) There is no cure for autoimmune diseases and the cost of managing an autoimmune disease is extremely high. In a month a person who suffers from an autoimmune disease incurs costs of up to KShs. 100,000 for medications to regulate the response of the immune system, KShs. 350,000 for medication to prevent flare-ups, and KShs. 70,000 for speech therapy drugs to manage slurring;
- (f) A person who suffers from an autoimmune disease has to undergo several tests such as regular MRIs that are costly, and may incur monthly costs ranging from KShs. 400,000 to KShs. 1,000,000 for treatment, yet a majority of the insurance companies do not offer medical cover for patients with autoimmune disease and such a person finds it very difficult to finance their treatment. A person is therefore torn between paying for medication, an appropriate diet or seeing a doctor;
- (g) NHIF does not pay for medical or health care expenses for a person who suffers from an autoimmune disease unless that person is undergoing dialysis or undergoes a procedure that is covered under the national scheme;
- (h) The Petitioners have attempted to engage the National Hospital Insurance Fund and the Ministry of Health with no success; and
- (i) The matter is not pending before any court of law constitutional or legal body.
-

### **3. Prayers to the Senate**

In their prayers, the petitioners requested the Senate :

1. To investigate the matters raised in this Petition;
2. To amend the NHIF Act to include persons who suffer from an include persons who suffer from autoimmune diseases to be among the beneficiaries whom payments for medical or health care expenses may be made to declared hospitals to cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests, diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy , doctor's fees, food and boarding costs.
3. To make any other resolution that enhances access of persons who suffer from an autoimmune disease to access medical or health care expenses.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LEGAL AND POLICY PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE PETITION

#### 1. Role and Mandate of Parliament

Articles 94 as read together with Article 96 of the Constitution provides for the role of Parliament in general, and the Senate in particular. Generally, the Houses of Parliament exercise the legislative mandate of the people, deliberate on matters of national interest and oversight the exercise of power by other arms of government.

#### 2. Right to Petition Parliament

The right to petition Parliament is provided for under Article 119 of the Constitution, which provides as follows:-

*“Every person has a right to petition Parliament to consider any matter within its authority, including enacting, amending or repealing any legislation. Parliament shall make provision for the procedure for the exercise of this right.”*

Further, Standing Order 226 the Senate Standing Order outlines the procedure for the committal of a petition to a Committee and transmission of its decision to the Petitioner. The Standing Committee on Health is mandated to consider all matters related to medical services, public health and sanitation. Further, the Petition to Parliament (Procedure) Act, 2012 and the Standing Orders of the Senate provide for the procedure to be followed in the submission, processing and consideration of a Petition.

#### 3. Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health

Article 43 (1)(a) of the Constitution guarantees every person the right to *‘the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care’*.

#### 4. Analysis of the Law in regard to the Prayers

Section 22 of the National Hospital Insurance Fund Act provides in subsection (3) *the benefits payable from the Fund shall be limited to expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests and diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or*

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*equipment; physiotherapy care and doctors' fees, food and boarding costs, subject to such limits, regulations and conditions as the Board may, in consultation with the Minister, prescribe.*



## CHAPTER THREE

### COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

In conducting its investigations, on diverse dates, the Committee met with key parties in relation to the petition including:

1. The Petitioners
2. The Ministry of Health
3. The National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF)

The minutes of the above meetings have been attached to this report as *Annex 3*. Further to the above, written memoranda as submitted to the Committee by the Ministry of Health and NHIF have been annexed to this report for reference purposes.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS

Following its proceedings, in respect of the prayers made in the petition, the Committee made the following determinations:

4. *Prayer One: To investigate the matters raised in this Petition*

**Committee Response:** In seeking to address the issues raised in this Petition, on diverse dates, the Committee held meetings with the Petitioner, the Ministry of Health and the National Health Insurance Fund. The Committee findings and determinations arising from this process are contained in this report.

5. *Prayer Two: To amend the NHIF Act to include persons who suffer from an include persons who suffer from autoimmune diseases to be among the beneficiaries whom payments for medical or health care expenses may be made to declared hospitals to cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests, diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy, doctor's fees, food and boarding costs.*
-

**Committee Response:** In respect of this prayer, the Committee noted that NHIF only covers auto-immune disease in the benefits packages that it offers under its managed schemes e.g. Civil Servant Cover.

However, for patients on ordinary NHIF cover, the benefit package is limited to dialysis, or procedures currently covered under the national scheme. This has left patients with autoimmune diseases unable to access needed treatment, and exposed them to catastrophic health expenditure.

The Committee further noted that unlike cancer patients who had been granted access to drugs and chemotherapy under NHIF, no special provision had been made for patients with autoimmune disease. This was in itself discriminatory.

Noting that section 22 sub-section 3 of the National Hospital Insurance Fund Act already provides for *the benefits payable from the Fund (to) be limited to expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests and diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment; physiotherapy care and doctors' fees, food and boarding costs, subject to such limits, regulations and conditions as the Board may, in consultation with the Minister, prescribe*, the Committee observed that in consultation with the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Health, the NHIF Boards needs to develop a special cover for patients with autoimmune disease that is aimed at ensuring that they receive the highest attainable standards of care in line with Article 43 of the Constitution, without incurring catastrophic health expenditure.

6. **Prayer Three:** *To make any other resolution that enhances access of persons who suffer from an autoimmune disease to access medical or health care expenses.*

**Committee Response:** In respect of this prayer, the Committee noted that safeguards need to be put in place to protect patients with auto-immune disease from the devastating socio-economic impact of the disease, and catastrophic health expenditure. To this end, the Committee observed that:

- e) There is a need for the MoH, the Council of Governors (COG) and County Governments to act to ensure that the drugs, laboratory supplies and reagents necessary for the treatment and management of autoimmune

diseases are prioritized for procurement, and are availed at all public health facilities through Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA);

- f) There is a need for the MoH to act urgently to ensure access to, and affordability of specialized care for patients with autoimmune diseases;
- g) Owing to the inherent and disproportionate risk that persons with autoimmune disease face of developing severe disability, there is need for the MoH and the National Council for Persons with Disability to put mechanisms in place to provide for the early detection of autoimmune with a view towards recognising, mitigating, and providing socio-economic relief for affected persons from the debilitating effects of the disease(s) before they progress to actual disability; and
- h) There is a need for the MoH and County Governments to act to ensure that patients with autoimmune diseases are able to access professional counseling services at all public hospitals; and,

In light of the above, the Committee resolved that:

3. This report be dispatched to the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) for purposes of developing and rolling out a special cover for patients with MS/NMO within a period of **six months**. This cover should be aimed at ensuring that patients with autoimmune diseases receive the highest attainable standards of care in line with Article 43 of the Constitution, without incurring catastrophic health expenditure.
  4. This report be dispatched to the Ministry of Health for purposes of reporting back to the Senate on the progress it has made in respect of: ensuring the prioritization and procurement of health products and technologies necessary for the management and care of patients with autoimmune diseases at all public health facilities; scaling-up the availability of Specialist care; facilitating assessment processes for patients with autoimmune diseases for purposes of the providing for the early detection, recognition, mitigation and socio-economic relief of patients suffering from the debilitating effects of autoimmune disease before they progress to actual disability; and, ensuring access to professional counseling and
-

psychology services for persons with auto-immune disease within **six months** receipt of this report.

PETITION TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE FUND TO PAY FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

28 SEP 2021

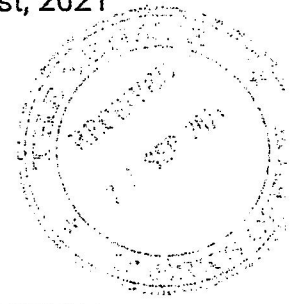
6<sup>th</sup> August, 2021

CLERK (M.A)

The Clerk of the Senate,  
Parliament Buildings,  
P.O. BOX 41842-00101  
Nairobi.

① DLPS

*Dear Sir,*  
*28/9/21*



RE: PETITION TO THE CLERK OF THE SENATE, FOR THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE FUND TO PAY FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

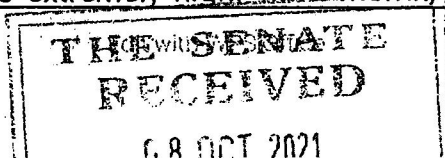
We, the undersigned, citizens of the Republic of Kenya, and the residents of Nairobi County and present this Petition on behalf persons living with an autoimmune disease in Kenya;

Draw the attention of the National Assembly to the following:

1. THAT we, the Petitioners are persons living with and caring for persons living with an autoimmune disease in Kenya.
2. THAT Article 43 of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services and one way that to access the right to health care services is through the enactment of the National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) that is established under the National Hospital Insurance Fund Act of 1998.
3. THAT one of the functions of the Board established thereunder is to make payments that include medical or health care expenses that cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests and diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy care and doctors' fees, food and boarding costs, out of the Fund to declared hospitals in accordance with the provisions of the NHIF Act.
4. THAT an autoimmune disease occurs where the immune system mistakes part of your body, for example your joints or your skin, as foreign bodies. The immune system releases proteins called antibodies that attack your cells. That there is no cure for an autoimmune diseasee and depute all research that is ongoing, doctors still do not understand what causes the immune system to act in an abnormal manner. That there are over 80 types of autoimmune diseases and there is no single test to determine that a person has an autoimmune disease and doctors often rely on clinical diagnoses. The latter makes it hard for a health care provider to know if a person really has an autoimmune disease and getting a diagnosis is often expensive, frustrating and stressful.
5. THAT there is no cure for autoimmune diseases and the cost of managing an auto immune disease is extremely high. In a month, a person who suffers

*Madam*  
*review*  
*of faculitate*  
*Chemical*  
*9/09/2021*

*no change*  
*please process*



*PCAI Health*  
*CSI Seal*

PETITION TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL  
INSURANCE FUND TO PAY FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR  
PERSONS LIVING WITH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

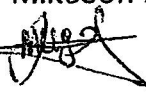

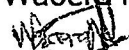
from an autoimmune disease incurs costs of up to Kshs 100,000 shillings for medications to regulate the response of the immune system, Kshs 350,000 shillings for medication to prevent flare ups, and Kshs 70,000 shillings for speech therapy drugs to manage slurring.

6. THAT a person who suffers from an autoimmune has to undergo numerous tests such as regular MRIs that are costly, may incur monthly costs ranging from Kshs 400,000 shillings to Kshs 1,000,000 shillings for treatment; yet a majority of the insurance companies do not offer a medical cover patient who suffer from an autoimmune disease, and such a person finds it very difficult to finance their treatment. A person is therefore torn between paying for medication, an appropriate diet or seeing a doctor.
7. THAT NHIF does not pay for medical or health care expenses of a person who suffers from an autoimmune disease unless that person undergoes dialysis or undergoes a procedure that is covered in the national scheme.
8. THAT the Petitioners have attempted to engage the National Hospital Insurance Fund and the Ministry of Health with no success.
9. THAT the matter presented in this petition is not pending before any court of law, constitutional or legal body.

Herefore, your humble petitioners pray that the National Assembly:

1. To investigate the matters raised in this Petition;
2. To amend the NHIF Act to include persons who suffer from an autoimmune disease to be among the beneficiaries whom payments for medical or health care expenses from the fund may be made to declared hospitals to cover expenses incurred in respect of drugs, laboratory tests and diagnostic services, surgical, dental or medical procedures or equipment, physiotherapy care and doctors' fees, food and boarding costs;
3. Makes any other resolution that enhances access of persons who suffer from an autoimmune disease to access medical or health care expenses.

And your PETITIONERS will ever pray.

Name	ID	Phone No.
Mikeson Mugo 	31421943	0726654643
Faith Rotich 	26243210	0727901048
Wacefa Maina. 	21649092	0798 170404

PETITION TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL  
INSURANCE FUND TO PAY FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE COSTS FOR  
PERSONS LIVING WITH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

Date .....28..... day of .....09....., 2021

