

ESTCOURT HOSPITAL

EZASEMTSHEZI N

NEWS

STAY INFORMED

MAY 2020

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT UPS IT'S SLEEVES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19





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COVID 19 SCREENING AND TESTING ON TRACK



Estcourt hospital teams with other stakeholders lead by the District Command Council Chairperson Mayor Cllr. A.S. Mazibuko, Uthukela District Director, Dr. M.T. Zulu and Estcourt hospital CEO Mr. M. P. Bekenya embarked on a massive screening and testing campaign for Covid-19. It started on 09 April 2020 at Emabhalonini area which is under Inkosi Langalibalele Municipality and is ongoing.

Operation Sukuma Sakhe structure came on board to assist with community entry and communities in different wards were informed prior of the date of the visit by the teams for screening at testing. Health care professionals managed to screen as many people as

possible and those that met case definition were tested.

Health teams were faced with challenges on the ground and had to keep changing their strategy for different places. Some households are scattered and far to reach and the teams had to improvise to make sure that they are able to reach them. Lockdown has assisted teams to get all family members at home in most households that were visited.

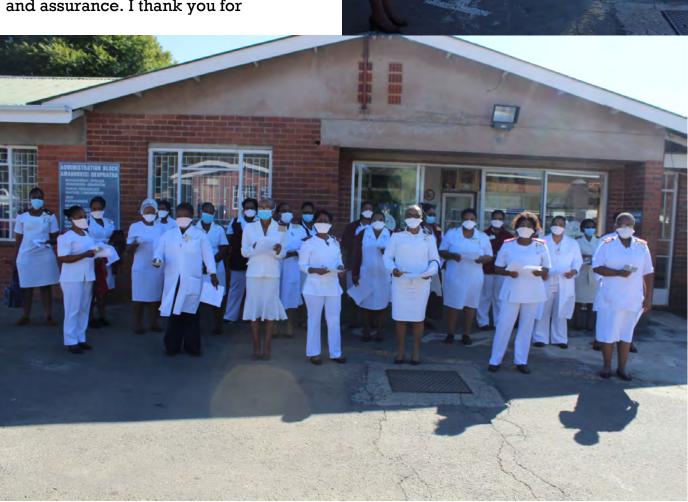
Inkosi Langalibalele screening and testing teams have also screened staff from other departments like RTI, Municipality, Estcourt prison and other businesses like ultra-city etc. Some employees were tested based on their medical condition.

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INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY CELEBRATION

Nurses at Estcourt Hospital gathered outside admin block on the 12 May 2020 to acknowledge International Nurses Day. Nurses are the backbone of the health system and this day presented an opportunity to commend them for their dedication to serve even during these trying times. Their continued patient centric approach in executing their duties has assisted the department to observe patients right to healthcare. Today the worlds is faced with COVID-19 pandemic and nurses are the front liners expected to care for the patients and others when they are at risk of contracting this virus themselves.

Mrs. W. Adam, Nursing Manager commended nurses, she said" I thank you for possessing patience, tenderness and assurance. I thank you for overcoming many fears and providing safety and care to the needy. I thank you for being the beacon of hope". She then reminded nurses that "People will remember how you made them feel as a nurse, Happy International Nurses Day". The Nurses then recited Nurses Pledge.



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CONSULTATION WITH DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS IN RESPONSE TO

COVID-19 PANDEMIC





Estcourt hospital responded with the necessary speed to engage different stakeholders by giving them information on Covid-19 pandemic. The consultation process started on the 03 March 2020 where internal stakeholder's i.e. clinical, non-clinical and allied staff members as well as service providers were trained on Covid-19 and were given a platform to ask clarity seeking questions.

At the end of that exercise, an invitation was extended to other stakeholders to give them

basic information on Covid-19 and how this pandemic has affected the day to day functioning of the hospital and clinics. One stakeholder group was trained at a time and their input was noted and clarity seeking questions were addressed to their satisfaction. Stakeholders trained among others were Religious Leaders, THP's, Disability Forum, LGBTI, Man Sector, and Senior Citizens.

Stakeholders commended the institution for giving them information on Covid-19 and they committed themselves to cascade information to their different structures so as to flatten the curve. Dr. Khanyile, religious leader said" We appreciate that the hospital is valuing us as its stakeholders and has given information on what is Covid-19 and how can we protect ourselves in an attempt to allay anxiety. Be assured that you have our support" he concluded.

FLU CLINIC OPENED TO ASSIST PATIENTS WITH FLU SYMPTOMS

Estcourt hospital has extended its services to target patients that have flu symptoms and need to be seen by the Dr. This clinic will assist in decreasing their waiting time dramatically and eliminate chances of exposing patients with minor ailments to communicable diseases like Covid-19.

This clinic started to work as from 21 April 2020 and "query Covid" patients are tested and admitted until results are received. The clinic is an extended wing of Gate clinic and under Operational Manager Sr. L. Radebe and is manned by three nurses, two professional nurses and one enrolled nurse.



Staff getting ready to test a patient

Doctor at OPD is available to assist. Patients are screened at the gate and those that meet case definition are referred directly to the flu clinic for further management.

EXPECTING MOTHERS REMINDED TO USE MOTHERS WAITING HOME



Matron Sibiya education expecting mothers about danger signs

Mothers waiting home is for expecting mothers that are from far to reach areas that they can make use of when they are about to deliver. This assists the hospital to decrease number of **BBA's (Born Before Arrival) which impose a** health risk on both the mother and the baby.

This was one of the topics covered during Pregnancy awareness campaign which was held on the 20 March 2020 at the High Risk Clinic. Expecting mothers were also urged to exclusively breastfeed their children for six months for them to get all the nutrients they need for their development.

Mothers were educated about Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) and its importance in children with low birth weight. Mothers were commended for attending antenatal classes early which is key if one wants to be healthy and give birth to a health baby.

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