



# KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# GJ CROOKES HOSPITAL

# NEWS

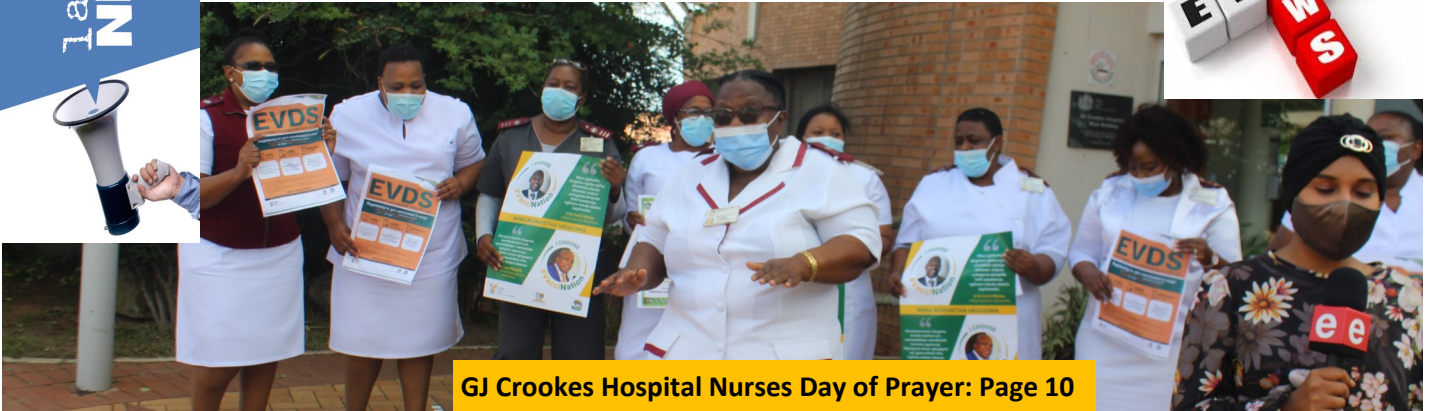
*Enabling your wellbeing*

Jan – June 2021



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# Acting CEO's Message



Acting CEO for GJ Crookes Hospital: Dr. VT Kgabo

We are 6 months into the year 2021, and covid-19 remains a part of our lives. As health care workers we continue to try to do what is right, we try to serve our community with dignity. Though we are not perfect, but when you look at some of the parts of the men and women in the front line, it is clear that the good out-weighs the bad. Our staff are brave healthcare workers, who persevere on duty trying to save lives during strenuous times. To me they represent heroes.

They represent the best of what GJ Crookes Hospital is about. That being said, it must be acknowledged that we do not always get it right. The GJ Crookes health care workers and staff are not flawless, we have made mistakes; we may have committed errors but those misdeeds no matter how erroneous, should not define us; but rather motivate us to do better. To be more complete and compassionate health care workers and staff. I therefore wish to thank all of staff for being dedicated during such difficult times. Your efforts are recognized and appreciated, continue to soldier on. we urge our community and stakeholders to work with us, through these trying times bear with us, we remain committed in ensuring better care, a healthy community and optional health for all. May the good Lord bless you.

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# Covid-19 Screening and Testing

Umdoni Health Sub-District conducts Mass Covid-19 Screening and Testing for the Community surrounding Scottburgh, Park Rynie and Umzinto.



Umdoni Health Sub-District Mobile Team getting ready to go out for screening and testing led by ANM PHC Mrs. Tibe

The Department of Health in Umdoni Health Sub-District Held Covid-19 screening and testing for the community from the 21st of January 2021 to date. This is a testing program initiated by the National Department of Health as Umdoni had been flagged as one of the Hotspots in Ugu District. The team started in Scottburgh CBD and went on to Malangeni Library, Park Rynie, Amandawe, Pennington. Further Kenterton, Ghandi Nagar, Umzinto, Dududu and Amahlongwa. In the activation of Level 3 Covid-19 lockdown regulations, as well as the Ugu District Joint Operations Committee (JOC) Interventions, hot spot community testing was intensified. Further index contact tracing within the Sub-District of Umdoni was intensified.





Covid-19 Screening and Testing Underway in Scottburgh and Umzinto

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# Pregnancy Awareness Week

Ugu Health District Assistant Director for Sexual and Reproductive Health holds a pregnancy awareness week with Gateway and Umzinto Clinics in Umdoni

On the 23rd and 24th of February 2021 Ugu Health District MNCWH Manager and Umdoni Health Sub-District held a pregnancy awareness week at Gateway Clinic and Umzinto Clinic. The awareness program was aimed at the following: educating pregnant mothers on eating a healthy diet, early attendance of antenatal clinic, adhering to the advice from healthcare workers, compliance with their supplements and treatment during pregnancy and finally encouraging women to bring their partners to the antenatal clinic visits so they are part of the process and provide support during their pregnancy journey. It was mentioned that during pregnancy if they experience complications, they must report to the clinic or hospital. A question and answer session was conducted on important things to note during pregnancy, enabling participation of mothers in the program. Some mothers mentioned the following points: -

- \* It's important to ensure personal Hygiene during pregnancy.
- \* Pregnant women to avoid alcohol and smoking during pregnancy.
- \* It is normal to feel minor symptoms like morning sickness, pica and nausea in the first trimester.

Mothers were told that should they experience bleeding, frontal headache etc. to report to their local clinic as these are danger



Patient Education on Pregnancy awareness at Gateway Clinic and Umzinto Clinic



signs during pregnancy. They were educated on the importance of understanding true signs of Labour which are

1. Lower abdominal pains.
2. Back ache.
3. Show.
4. Rapture of membranes.

Mothers were further given a talk on family planning methods after birth. Various methods were demonstrated and the benefits they provide.

A vote of thanks to all guests present and the mothers commended for participating in the program.

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# PREGNANCY AWARENESS PHOTO GALLERY



Patient Education on Pregnancy awareness at Gateway Clinic and Umzinto Clinic



# Vaccination Rollout Plan



District and Hospital Management engagement on the Vaccine Rollout Plan

GJ Crookes Hospital was identified as the site for the Ugu District Health Care Worker Vaccination Rollout. The management and staff of GJ Crookes Hospital JOC (Joint Operations Committee) developed a vaccination rollout plan for all health care workers in Ugu District. The plan encompassed the participants, the venues, the team leaders, roles and responsibilities of each member, the setup of the various stations and the overall management of the vaccine.

On the 8th of February 2021, the Ugu District Directorate conducted a preparedness visit at GJ Crookes Hospital. Management and staff of the hospital presented the venue as well as the vaccination stations layout. A dry run was conducted in order to have an understanding off the various stations. Further time, the process of moving from station 1: Screening & Eligibility. Station 2: Headcount, Station 3: EVDS, Station 4: Vaccination administration, Station 5: Observation and final Station 6: Vaccine preparation. The Dry run was a success and assisting the team in hosting a successful vaccination rollout



Dry Run & Mock Drill for Vaccination at GJ Crookes Hospital

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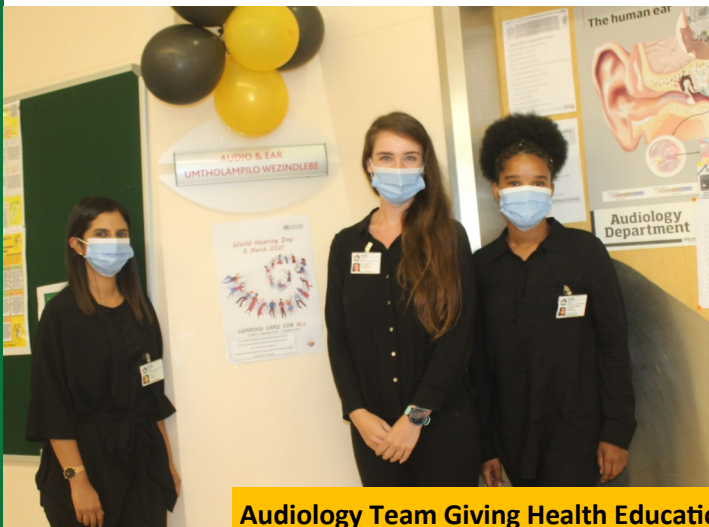
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# Hearing Awareness Day



**Audiology Team Giving Health Education in Outpatients Department for Hearing Day Awareness**

The First World Report on Hearing was launched by the World Health Organization on the 3rd of March 2021. This awareness coincided with the World Hearing Day which is commemorated on the 3rd of March of every year. This report presents a global call for action to address hearing loss and ear diseases.

The purpose of this initiative was to bring awareness and increase the knowledge of the patients at GJ Crookes hospital on hearing and hearing related issues such as middle ear infections.

The theme of the World Hearing Awareness Day was:

## **Hearing care for ALL!**

Message of the Campaign

**Good hearing and communication are important at all stages of life**

Clients were informed that hearing loss (and related ear diseases) can be avoided through preventative actions such as: protection against loud sounds; good ear care practices and immunization.



It was also mentioned that hearing loss (and related ear diseases) can be addressed when it is identified in a timely manner and appropriate care sought

People at risk of hearing loss should check their hearing regularly

People having hearing loss (or related ear diseases) should seek care from a health care provider

The Audiology department planned and executed this small awareness initiative, involving patients in the outpatient building.

Pamphlets were distributed to patients. POPD distributed pamphlets on middle ear infections in children. Pamphlets on hearing loss in adults were distributed. Further a presentation was done on the scope of practice of Audiologists in the Pharmacy waiting area and in the Outpatients Department



# TB Awareness Day in Malangeni



TB Awareness Presentation

On the 14th of April 2021 a TB Awareness day was held at Malangeni community Hall. Ms. Lungile Dlamini from Think TB Organization and her crew, in collaboration with Ugu Health District and Ugu District Municipality coordinated the program. The function of Think TB Organization is to support TB patients by ensuring they adhere to their treatment course until they complete it further assisting HIV & Aids clients.

The event was coordinated through Ugu District Municipality Special Programs department, Umdoni Municipality and GJ Crookes Hospital. The target was TB Clients on treatment within Malangeni and surrounding areas. Various speakers gave health education and supporting messages. Two clients gave testimonies about TB Treatment, one currently on treatment and another who had completed.

The event was hosted under Covid-19 Regulations and the community and guests were screened for Covid-19



Malangeni Community attending TB Awareness by Think TB Organization





# Hand Hygiene Awareness Day

World Hand Hygiene Day: The Day Dedicated To The Importance Of Hand Hygiene In Health Care And To Remember That Clean Hands Save Lives



Hand Wash Drive in Outpatients

On the 5th of May 2021 the Infection Prevention and Control Manager Mrs. Raj Naidoo, with the assistance of Hand Hygiene Champions led by Mrs. Thathakahle Gumede held a hand wash drive in the Outpatients area at GJ Crookes Hospital. The drive was to educate the patients about the importance of washing hands, thereby reducing infections. The talented Sr. Gumede led health songs and slogans as the team marched throughout the Outpatients department. Demonstration on hand hygiene was provided

Global hand hygiene expert Professor Didier Pittet highlighted in WHO's video message that by increasing hand hygiene, it is possible to prevent up to 50 per cent of avoidable infections transmitted at the point of care. A point of care is the place where three elements come together: the patient, the health care worker, and treatment involving contact with the patient; thus important to ensure no contamination.

Infections acquired at the point of care affect millions of patients and health workers every year. Yet, compliance with hand hygiene best practices is only around 10 per cent during care of critically ill patients in low-income countries while in high-income countries is rarely exceeds 60 to 70 per cent. The most vulnerable communities around the world lack access to basic hand hygiene facilities. A WHO report published in 2020 shows that one in four health care facilities lack basic water facilities and one in three health care facilities lack hand hygiene facilities at the point of care. He further said that to help bridge these gaps this year, WHO's 'Save Lives: Clean Your Hands' campaign focuses on achieving effective hand hygiene action at the point of care. He asserted. The aim of the "Save lives: clean your hands" campaign is to bridge the gaps and focus on achieving effective hand hygiene at the point of care.



Hand Wash Demonstration by Sr. TR Gumede

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# Celebration of Nurses Day



Nurses enjoying their day of prayer

On the 12th of May 2021 GJ Crookes Hospital Nursing Management held an International Nurses Day of Prayer and Celebration, recognizing all the fallen heroes due to Covid-19 and encouraging resilience to ones still on duty. The day began with an opening prayer by Matron Sisoka. A purpose of the day given by Matron Muthwa who mentioned that they are commemorating the times of Florence Nightingale the nurse who paved a way for all the nurses and showed good service to those in need.

The Acting CEO for GJ Crookes Hospital Dr. VT Kgabo gave a message of support to the nurses on this day and thanked the nurses for their hard work even in these times of Covid-19, sacrificing their time and lives. She mentioned that nurses continue to support doctors and go the extra mile; this hospital is still standing because of the type of nurses we have. Dr. Kgabo acknowledged that the hospital has lost a number of patients and staff due to Covid-19 but nurses persevere.

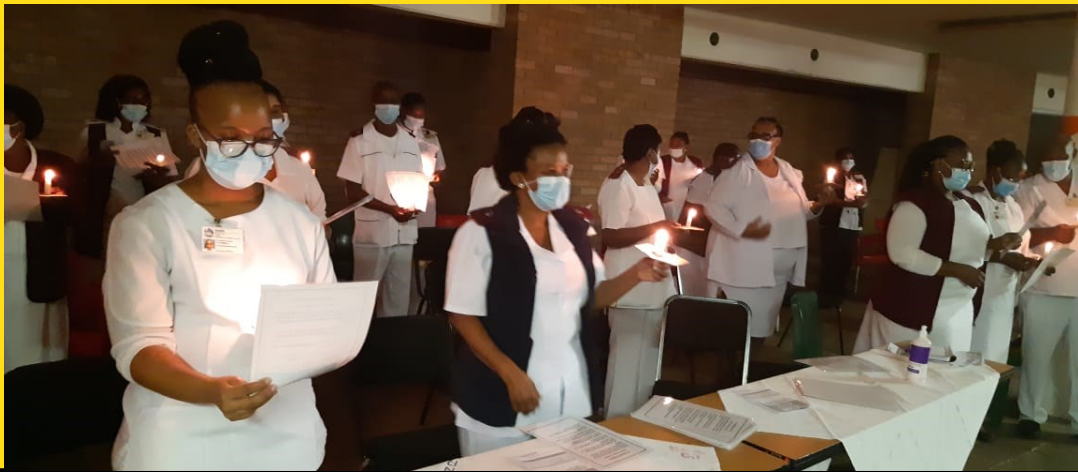
Ms. PT Mkhize Deputy Manager Nursing for GJ Crookes Hospital thanked the nurses for doing their job well in the midst of Covid-19, she then reminded them of the nursing principles and the importance of looking after patients with respect and dignity. Ms. Mkhize then led the Nurses pledge with all nurses lighting their candles and reciting after her. She urged all nurses to be proud of their profession, have confidence and perform their duties with diligence.

A vote of thanks was given by Matron Sisoka who thanked all the nurses for the ongoing hard work they're on a day to day basis.



Nurses Singing Health Education Songs at GJ Crookes Hospital

# Nurses Day Photo Gallery



Nursing staff on Nurses Day at GJ Crookes Hospital



# Sr. Thathakahle Gumede's Interview with eNCA



Sr. Gumede being interviewed at Philani Clinic

In commemoration of the international Nurses Day of Prayer, the eNCA crew from eTV visited our very own Sr. Thathakahle Gumede who is the Operational Manager for Philani Clinic and also joined the Nurses Day of Prayer at GJ Crookes Hospital

The crew was interested on her demonstration of Batho Pele Principles and how she has upheld the Nurses pledge throughout her career, and also the impact of her singing to the patients. Upon

her interview with Nabeela Shaik from eNCA these are a few comments that she made below.

Sr. Gumede started singing for patients at Umzinto Mobile Clinic in 1989 where she started composing songs for health education, especially for health awareness's. She works at Philani Clinic for the Kwa- Cele Community and surrounding areas like Mandawe and Amahlongwa. She said the reason why she sings and dances for the patients is that she wants them to feel at home, laugh and forget about their problems and sicknesses. Sr. Gumede said that the definition of health is 'Health is a state of complete physical, emotional, psychological and social well-being not merely the absence of disease or infirmity', which means that if the person is sick, all these aspects are affected and medicine alone cannot reach all of them, therefore she's trying to create an environment where patients are able to get close to her and not be scared especially nowadays when there's a popular perception of the nurse's bad attitude which has created a bridge between us and our clients

Patients show a positive reaction when she sings and dances, they enjoy her singing and become happy.

When Sr. Gumede sings, patients mention that they are relieved of stress, they forget their problems even for a while, whether emotional or physical pain. Patients realize that Sr. Gumede is at their level and take her as one of their own, they see that it's easy to approach her with any problem. It makes them feel loved and accepted in the facility. A ripple effect of this positive behavior to the rest of the staff is evident in them singing for patients when doing health education in the mornings.

Sr. Gumede introduced a soup kitchen for Philani Clinic, where she cooks for patients through raising funds amongst the staff at the clinic. She is persevering due to conditions which she has seen amongst the patients that visit the clinic. She believes that even if it's not all the time, but if a person can have something to eat, just for them to forget about their problems even if it's just for a day and to see that they are loved.

She also started a backyard garden at the clinic for the same purpose, where if she has been approached by a patient, she would then provide them with veggies that she has grown, so they may cook at home or even give them seeds and encourage them to also plant at home.

In her own words she said "My advice to nurses is that we must do our work diligently and religiously and not allow anything that can tarnish the image of our noble profession". I strongly believe that medicine treats but the nurse's good attitude HEALS. Let's hold our lamps shining. "

# Sr. TR Gumede's Interview with eNCA



Sr. Gumede being interviewed outside Main Building at the Hospital



Sr. Gumede Showcasing some of her activities at Philani Clinic



Nursing singing Health Education Songs on Nurses Day



# Health Care Worker Vaccination Rollout



Public and Private Health Staff Members patiently waiting in line for their job of J&J Vaccine

On the 27th of March 2021 staff members from all over Ugu District within the Public Health Sector and Private Health Sector came to GJ Crookes Hospital in numbers for their Covid-19 J&J Vaccine. For what seemed like an impossible mission due to numbers that had never been imagined before, coming for a service in one day, it turned out to be the most successful project ever pulled by GJ Crookes Hospital in collaboration with Ugu Health District. The total health care workers vaccinated to date is 3532 Ugu Private and NGO's 268. Grand Total 3800.



Staff vaccinations at GJ Crookes Hospital



# STAFF VACCINATIONS



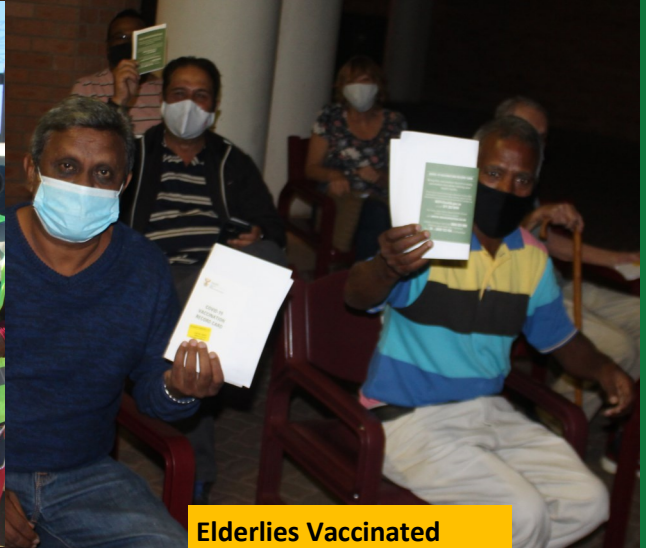
Different categories of staff vaccinated from all over Ugu District Facilities



# Vaccination Rollout for the Elderly



Acting CEO addressing Speaker and Mayor of Ugu



Elderlies Vaccinated

On the 17th of May 2021 GJ Crookes Hospital and Umdoni Health Sub-District began the Covid-19 Vaccinations for the 60 years and above. The senior citizens of Umdoni were very much excited to receive the vaccine, to such an extent that they came in numbers. A number of citizens even came before their appointment date and time and some come even without having been registered for vaccination, they were all assisted, no one was turned away. It was a heartwarming sight to witness the elderly with joy of seeing each other, for some who haven't seen one another for long, the happiness was all over. It was good to see them taking a step to protect their lives, doing it on their own taking ownership of their health.. A request for additional chairs was made to the local Umdoni Municipality who came on board and provided 100 chairs to the hospital. Mr. Narend Singh a member of parliament further assisted in arranging an additional 100 chairs. GJ Crookes Hospital Management is really grateful for the support. These vaccinations have resulted in people from different walks of society coming through to get their jab, even the Speaker for Ugu District Municipality was amongst the many crowds that received their first jab of the Pfizer vaccine.



Happy faces as elderlies got vaccinated





# Elderly Vaccination Photo Gallery



Dr. VT Kgabo Acting CEO GJ Crookes Hospital, Mr. B Khowane Deputy Director (Clinical Programs Ugu District) Mrs. N Gumede Ugu District Municipality Speaker, Mrs. S Mabaso Acting District Director Ugu Health District and Ugu Mayor Mr. S Ngcobo to the vaccination stations for oversight and speaker's vaccination



Excitement as Elderlies get their vaccination



# Sr. Mkhangala's and Mr. Situma's Farewell



Mr. J Situma and Sr Mkhangala at their Farewell

On the 17th of May 2021, GJ Crookes Hospital bid farewell to Sr. Mkhangala Operational Manager Night Duty and Mr. Situma Assistant Nursing Manager: Monitoring and Evaluation. It was Sr. Mkhangala's Last day in service as she had tendered her retirement and Mr Situma was transferring to Umngeni Hospital in Howick. The Nursing Management Team and Executive Management gave their farewell messages to the two managers leaving the institution. They were thanked for their service and dedication to the nursing duty and managerial roles especially during these challenging times of Covid-19. GJ Crookes Hospital is truly grateful for their service and wishes them well in the future.



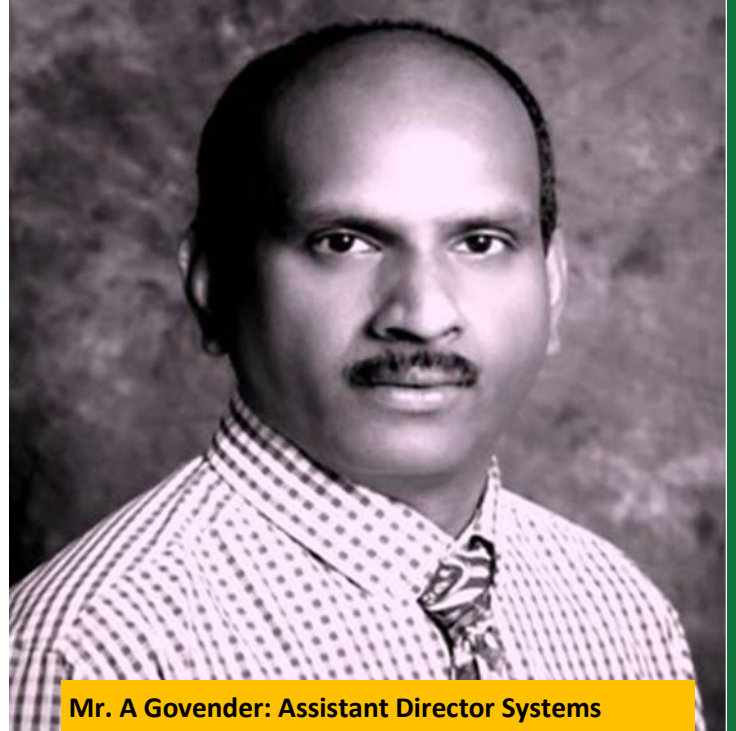
Nursing Management presenting gifts to departing staff members



# New Appointments



Mrs. ZM Sobantu: Monitoring and Evaluation Manager



Mr. A Govender: Assistant Director Systems

GJ Crookes Hospital extends a warm welcome to the newly appointed staff Mrs. ZM Sobantu: Monitoring and Evaluation Manager and Mr. A Govender: Assistant Director Systems



## Legislature Visit and inspection of Covid-19 Newly Constructed Unit



**MEC Jomo Sibiya Addressing the Legislature Team and all attendees**

On the 2nd of June 2021 GJ Crookes Hospital was visited by the Provincial Legislature Portfolio Committee on Public Works and the MEC for Public Works Mr. Jomo Sibiya. The purpose of the visit was oversight and monitoring of the newly built and refurbished Covid-19 Unit (Old Maternity block). MEC Jomo Sibiya stated that he was pleased with speed and efficiency in delivering of this social infrastructure project that will ensure the provision of quality healthcare. He said the work at GJ Crookes Hospital is a clear demonstration of the ability to deliver on time, within budget, all infrastructure projects.

When asked for comment on how the changes and addition of new structures have assisted the facility, Dr Kgabo the Acting Chief executive Officer gave an outline in detail of how the structures have benefitted the Ugu District in managing Covid-19 patients. She said that the work Ethic of the contractors has been exceptional, the quality of work done is one rarely seen. The contractors have become part of GJ Crookes team. At anytime assistance was required or adjustments based on patient care and the end user; the contractor made means to adjust it. The Covid-19 units are of such high quality, it allowed the facility to advance their skills in managing Covid-19 cases with the use of CPAP, High flown nasal prong canula oxygen, interim ventilation and isolated care of clients. Mr. James Nxumalo member of the Portfolio Committee and Ex Mayor of Ethekwini Municipality commended the work done by the contractor as per the mentions of the Acting CEO and that this means, there was value for money in the construction of these structures.

Mr. A. Khan the Acting Chairperson of the Hospital Board thanked the Public Works department, the MEC and the Portfolio Committee for the opportunity of having these structures built for GJ Crookes Hospital for Ugu District. Mr. Khan mentioned that He said in a dark cloud, there's always a silver lining, hence over and above Covid-19, GJ Crookes Hospital has received such good structures. He further mentioned that the late CEO Ms. T Wanda would be proud. The team then went out led by Dr Kgabo to view the new units.



**Acting CEO Dr. VT Kgabo leading the Legislature Oversight Committee to inspection of new structures**

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# Commemoration of June 16 and Youth Day



Dental Team in their School Uniform

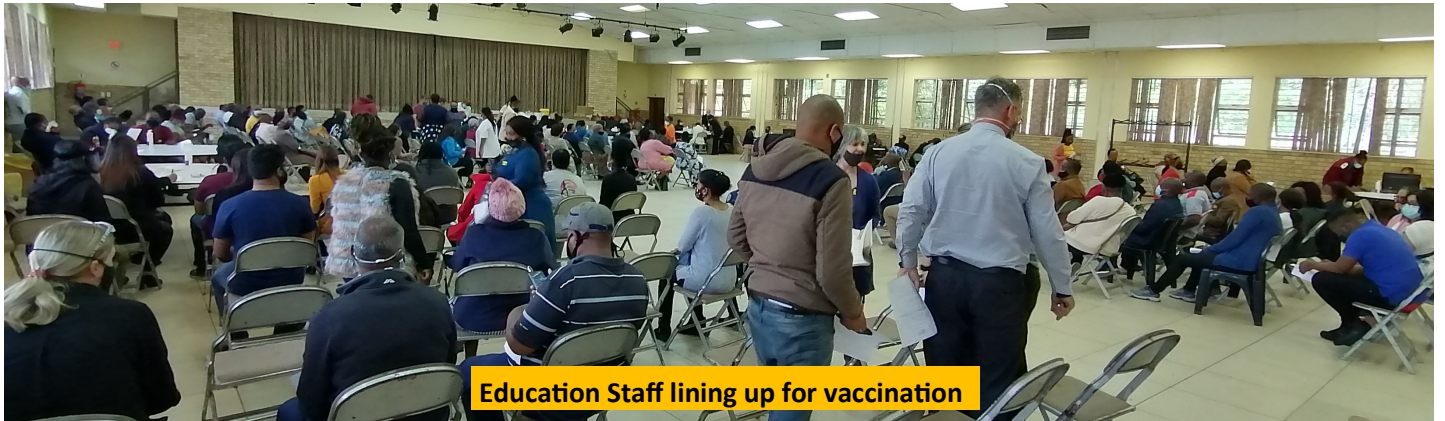
On the 16th of June 2021, the GJ Crookes Hospital Dental Department arrived wearing school uniforms in commemoration of the 1976 Soweto Uprising. They said the reason for the recognition of June 16 is to remember where our country's youth have come from, further to promote the importance of quality education and continue the fight against any form of oppression and marginalization.

Youth Day is celebrated annually on 16 June as a reminder of the importance of youth and their voices. The day also serves to commemorate those young people who lost their lives in the struggle against Apartheid and the Bantu Education System.



Forever Young Pose

# VACCINATION OF EDUCATORS



Education Staff lining up for vaccination

Covid 19 vaccinations for educators began on the 23rd June 2021. Teachers and support staff eligible to receive the J&J Vaccine came out in numbers to the vaccination sites for Umdoni Sub-District which were, Umzinto Town Hall and Dududu Clinic. As of 06 July 2021 there has been 1615 Educators and Education support staff who have received their vaccinations. GJ Crookes Hospital is honoured to play a role in



Education Staff Getting the Jab



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## EDITORIAL TEAM / DETAILS

We thank you for taking your time to read through our facility newsletter. Should you have any interesting health stories, please share them with the Hospital PRO Mr. Thabiso Mbanjwa on [maxwell.mbanjwa@kznhealth.gov.za](mailto:maxwell.mbanjwa@kznhealth.gov.za). Your inputs will be much appreciated.

Should you have any complaints or compliments regarding the work and manner of approach by our staff members you can also send in writing to [maxwell.mbanjwa@kznhealth.gov.za](mailto:maxwell.mbanjwa@kznhealth.gov.za) or call 0399787215.

Please remember to stay safe from Covid-19 by keeping your hands clean, wash with soap and water, sanitize regularly, wear your mask, avoid crowded areas. We encourage our community to get vaccinated against Covid-19. We will support you and assist in any way we can.



**Thabiso M. Mbanjwa (PRO)**  
WRITER, DESIGNER & EDITOR



**Dr. VT Kgabo (Acting CEO)**  
CHIEF EDITOR



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