



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**  
HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

KwaZulu-Natal  
**College of Nursing**  
( K Z N C N )

## VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS

# NEWS

March 2025

*Lighting the Spark of Nursing*

### VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS REPRESENTS KZNCN AT G20 SECOND HEALTH WORKING GROUP



On the 25th to the 28th March 2025, South Africa hosted the G20 second Health Working Group , at the Capital resort in Zimbali Estate. After a rigorous presentation, the Kwazulu-Natal College of Nursing was selected by the KZN Department of Health as one of the eight exhibitors at the conference. Victoria Mxenge Campus was tasked to represent KZNCN and VMC staff, Dr. N A Williams and Mr. L Moodley set up a simulated ICU patient that was intubated, ventilated, had a TRACIII splint, IV infusions and attached to a cardiac monitor. This showcased the KZNCN high fidelity Mannequins and equipment used by VM campus in training nurse specialists. Amongst the many delegates that visited the KZNCN exhibition stand were (Pictured above): the National Minister of Health, KZN Premier, KZN MEC and HOD of Health, SANC CEO/ Registrar and SANC chairperson

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KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health



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**GROWING  
KWAZULU-NATAL  
TOGETHER**

# VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS

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## VISION

Victoria Mxenge Campus strives for excellence in nursing education by producing proficient undergraduate and postgraduate nurses and midwives/accouchers for leadership in specialised health care who will be responsive to the health needs of local and global communities

## MISSION

The mission of Victoria Mxenge Campus is to produce undergraduate and postgraduate Nurses and Midwives/accouchers competent to provide specialised, high-quality and culturally sensitive care to enhance health needs of diverse individuals, families and communities

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME OFFERED:

Advanced Diploma in Midwifery (R1497) SAQA ID No: 121196

## PROPOSED POST GRADUATE PROGRAMMES:

Postgraduate Diploma in Adult Critical Care Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Child Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery

Postgraduate Diploma in Orthopaedic Nursing

Postgraduate Diploma in Perioperative Nursing





## VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS SHINES AT THE VICTORIA MXENGE HOSPITAL QUALITY DAY



On the 13th November 2024, Victoria Mxenge Campus joined the VMH hospital team for their annual Quality Day event which took place within the hospital premises in the Jubilee Hall. Members from the eThekweni District Quality Assurance & Promotion team were invited to the event as adjudicators. Departments within the hospital were required to present Quality Improvement Plans and the goal of the day was to choose a winning team which would represent the hospital at the District Quality Day held on 29th November 2025. Although Victoria Mxenge Campus did not present a QIP, the campus was placed 2nd for Best Display and showcasing updated information. The campus also received an award for observing a KZN provincial Health Calendar day ie: Nelson Mandela Day for holding a community outreach. Pictured above are representatives of Victoria Mxenge Campus receiving these awards.

# RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS BY Dr. N. A. WILLIAMS VICTORIA MXENGE STAFF MEMBER

Health SA Gesondheid

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Original Research

## Challenges hindering family involvement in the hospital nursing care of a child with autism



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Challenges hindering family  
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**Background:** Family involvement is crucial in a child's treatment; however, many professional nurses still neglect to involve families in their child's care. Studies have indicated that the perceived lack of family involvement in hospitalised children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a problem in many countries. Few studies have been conducted in Africa with none relating to family involvement, highlighting the need for further research.

**Aim:** To develop in-depth insights into the challenges regarding family involvement in hospital nursing care of children with ASD, in the South African context.

**Setting:** Paediatric wards at selected private hospitals and family homes in the eThekweni District of KwaZulu-Natal.

**Methods:** An interpretative phenomenological analysis method was used. A sample of 10 professional nurses and 10 family members was achieved by purposive sampling. Data were collected from participants using semi-structured in-depth interviews.

**Results:** The following challenges were identified by the participants: the lack of knowledge of nurses regarding ASD, nurses not listening to family, uncaring attitude of nurses, nurses' lack of time and shortage of nursing staff.

**Conclusion:** Nurses play a pivotal role in overcoming the challenges to family involvement in the hospital nursing care of a child with ASD. Making nurses aware of the challenges will help improve family involvement in hospitals nursing for the child with ASD.

**Contribution:** This study added to the body of knowledge by identifying the challenges to the involvement of families in the hospital nursing care of a child with ASD.

**Keywords:** autism; autism spectrum disorder; barriers; challenges; hindering; family involvement; nursing care.

The Victoria Mxenge campus wishes to congratulate Dr. N. A. Williams (Emergency Nursing Lecturer) on his latest publication in Health SA Gesondheid Journal. His article entitled : " Challenges hindering family involvement in the hospital nursing care of a child with Autism" is available for free on the Health SA Gesondheid Webpage or at : <https://doi.org/10.4102/hsag.v30i0.2731>.The article was published in February 2025 and emanated from his Doctoral thesis and will be very Insightful to all Paediatric Nurses. Dr. Neil Williams has another article accepted by Curationis Journal and will be published soon, we look forward to reading his next article. These scholarly activities are important for the VM Campus as a college of Higher Education.





# ASSOCIATION FOR PERI- OPERATIVE PRACTITIONERS OF SOUTH AFRICA



The Victoria Mxenge Campus (VMC) is committed to all scholar activities including the promotion of professional associations, to this end Ms. C. Chetty coordinated the Association for Peri-operative Practitioners of South Africa's: "Fundamentals of Theatre Technique Workshop". Ms. Chetty also presented "Skin Preparation in Operating Theatre" at this workshop, along with Mrs P.D. Bhagirathie (Retired VMC Lecturer), amongst other presenter. Altogether the workshop was a massive success and has improved the knowledge of Peri-operative Nurses in KZN. The workshop was hosted at Victoria Mxenge Hospital in the Jubilee Hall on the 1st March 2025 from 8am to 1pm.



# PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION UPDATE



The KwaZulu-Natal College of Nursing have developed curriculum for eleven postgraduate diplomas', to be implemented at eight of its campuses. Nine of these PGDip programmes, have been approved (fully/partially) by the South African Nursing Council (SANC) and they have also been conditionally accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE).

At the Victoria Mxenge Campus, the following programmes have received full approval from SANC and full accreditation CHE: Postgraduate Diploma in Adult Critical Care Nursing, Postgraduate Diploma in Orthopaedic Nursing, Postgraduate Diploma in Perioperative Nursing. All these Postgraduate Diploma are now awaiting registration with SAQA (SAQA IDs) which are required prior to implementation of the programmes.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing and the Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery have received full approval from SANC but conditional accreditation with CHE. Once all the condition of accreditation for CHE have been met and CHE has given these programmes full Accreditation then only will they proceed to SAQA for a SAQA ID.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Child Nursing has received SANC approval and are awaiting CHE accreditation. All postgraduate diplomas will be offered at NQF level 8.



# ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN MIDWIFERY (R1497)



## Welcome Group 1-2025

The academic staff of Victoria Mxenge Campus extends a warm welcome to the students of Group 1-2025 into the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery programme. The campus offers students a variety of resources, including academic support, clinical guidance, and personal development opportunities, all designed to facilitate student learning and development. As students navigate this journey the team is committed to providing students with the support and resources necessary to succeed in the programme, whether it's seeking advice, accessing study materials, or getting help with clinical placements, the staff are here to facilitate the student's success. A holistic approach is central to becoming a successful midwife and making a positive impact on the lives of women and their families. The journey ahead will be both rewarding and challenging with many learning opportunities. The staff encourage students to approach their studies with enthusiasm and commitment and look forward to supporting them into becoming compassionate skilled midwives.

## Farewell Group 1-2024

The academic staff of Victoria Mxenge Campus want to take a moment to congratulate each and every one of the students of group 1-2024 on the incredible achievement in completing the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery Programme. For the students of group 1-2024, the journey has been one of dedication, hard work, and compassion. Over the duration of the programme they have grown, learned, and transformed in ways that are both profound and inspiring. Students are well-prepared to face the challenges and joys of being a midwife. Midwifery is a calling—one that requires not just expertise but also a deep sense of compassion and a dedication to the women and their families they will serve. We have no doubt students will continue to grow and thrive as they embark on their professional journey, making a positive difference in the lives of those under their care. As they move forward, to always remember the importance of continuous learning, collaboration, and self-care.

On behalf of the academic staff of Victoria Mxenge Campus, we want to thank students for their hard work and dedication to this program. We are incredibly proud of all that they have accomplished, and we cannot wait to see the amazing things they will achieve in the future.

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## Campus Principal Retires



The 29th of January 2025 was a bitter–sweet day at Victoria Mxenge campus, as we bid farewell to our campus principal Mrs E.S. Biyela. Mrs Biyela started her basic training in 1983 and Midwifery in 1985, She worked as a professional nurse from 1987 to 1991 at Nkonjeni hospital and PMMH from 1991 to 2002. She then worked as a Midwifery lecturer at King Edward VIII Campus from 2002 to 2007 and was promoted to HOD of Midwifery from 2007 to 2019 and finally was appointed as campus principal of Victoria Mxenge campus from 2019 to 2025.

In a fitting celebration of her professional life, current and former campus staff members said their farewells to this giant of nursing education. Certainly the campus will miss the contributions of Mrs Biyela and we wish her a long and health retirement.



# **MS. C CHETTY**

## **ACTING PRINCIPAL OF**

### **VICTORIA MXENGE CAMPUS**



Ms. Cynthia Chetty has been appointed as the acting campus principal of the Victoria Mxenge Campus as from the 1st February 2025 until a permanent campus principal is appointed. Ms. Chetty has a wealth of Nursing Education experience and has worked as an Operating Theatre lecturer for the last 20 years and in 2023 was promoted to Head of Department for this programme. She has commenced her basic training in 1988 and has completed many nursing Diploma's, a Bachelors Degree and a Master Degree, She is currently in the process of completing her PhD in Nursing. The campus would like to take this opportunity to wish her well in this new role.

## NDoH Nurse Leadership Initiative (Mentorship programme)

The National Department of Health (NDoH) in collaboration with FHi360 commenced a Nurse Leadership Initiative (NLI) Mentorship Programme whereby esteemed nurse leaders and junior nurse leaders were chosen as mentors and mentees. A three day readiness workshop was held in November 2024 at the Maharani Hotel in Durban. Mr L Moodley represented the Kwazulu-natal College of Nursing (Victoria Mxenge Campus) as a mentee. Thereafter, Mentors and Mentees were grouped according to their expertise/needs. Mentees from the clinical institutions were grouped with compatible Mentors and the same was done with KZN CN head office and the different mentees from different campuses. In January 2025, a two day workshop was held at Elangeni Hotel in Durban to introduce Mentors to Mentees and establish rules of interaction between both parties during the Mentorship process. Pictured below are the group of Mentees and Mentors who attended the readiness workshop at Maharani Hotel Durban.





# VMC STAFF ATTEND ASSESSOR AND MODERATOR TRAINING



## ASSESSORS WORKSHOP

Ms. C.L.M. Steele from VMC participated at the Assessor Workshop held on the 19/02/2025 to 22/02/2025 at Addington Campus, Durban. It was organised by KZNCN and facilitated by the National School of Government. The primary objective of the workshop was to enhance the skills and knowledge of professionals involved in the assessment process. A significant part of the workshop was dedicated to interactive sessions and group work. It provided assessors with the necessary knowledge and skills to conduct fair, reliable and consistent assessments.

## MODERATORS WORKSHOP

Mrs. N.N. Phakathi and Ms. B.Q. Mncube from VMC were the attendees at the workshop held on the 25/02/2025 to 27/02/2025 at Greys Campus, Pietermaritzburg. It was organised by KZNCN and facilitated by the National School of Government. The workshop aimed to enhance the skills and competencies of moderators, focussing on best practices, approaches, and techniques in facilitating effective learning and assessments in various settings. The interactive nature of the workshop fostered a collaborative learning environment and it was highly beneficial to the participants.

# SANC QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTION VISIT TO VICTORIA MXENGE HOSPITAL FOR R171 (RK KHAN CAMPUS) STUDENTS



**South African Nursing Council**  
*Regulating nursing, advocating for the public*

Officials from the South African Nursing Council accreditation and quality control departments visited Victoria Mxenge Hospital on 12th February 2025. The purpose of the visit was a Quality Control Inspection of the facility for the R171 programme (Diploma in Nursing). Although Victoria Mxenge Campus does not offer the R171 programme, staff from VMC supported R K Khan Campus with accreditation readiness. On the Day of the visit, the Nursing Manager of VMH: Mrs F. Ngcobo delivered a presentation on the hospital departments, nursing staff complement, quality assurance and support services available. The presentation was attended by Victoria Mxenge Hospital CEO and departmental nursing managers; Victoria Mxenge Campus staff as well as RK Khan Campus Staff. After the presentation, breakaway teams were formed by the SANC officials and selected hospital units were visited for a walk about and to view evidence.

Towards the end of the visit, the teams re-joined and feedback was given to all departments within VMH as a collective. Overall, the visit went well and the concluding message was that the SANC was satisfied with the services offered at VMH as well as the nursing care provided to patients.





# **Health Awareness Days 2025**

## **A long and healthy life for all South Africans**

### **January 2025**

**4 World Braille Day**  
**26 World Leprosy Day**

### **February 2025**

**3 Feb - 28 Mar Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination first round**  
**3 - 7 Pregnancy Awareness Week**  
**3 - 7 STI\Condom Week**  
**4 World Cancer Day**  
**10 International Epilepsy Day**  
**10 - 16 National Epilepsy Week**  
**21 Healthy Lifestyle Awareness Day**

### **March 2025**

**3 World Hearing Day**  
**3 World Birth Defects Day**  
**4 World Obesity Day**  
**8 International Womens Day**  
**9 - 15 World Glaucoma Week**  
**12 World Glaucoma Day**  
**13 World Kidney Day**  
**20 World Head Injury Awareness Day**  
**21 Human Rights Day**  
**21 World Down Syndrome Day**  
**24 World TB Day**



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