



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

King Edward VIII Hospital

EzaseKhangela

“WOMEN & YOUTH HEALTH”

NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2022

Celebrating Pharmacy Month



September is National Pharmacy month, a period to create more awareness on a variety of health matters and how pharmacy professionals (pharmacist and pharmacist assistants) as healthcare professions can help enrich the health of the community members. Pharmacy month

forms part of an official health calendar in South Africa.

Pharmacy profession is a fundamental asset to the healthcare system. To commemorate this month, a variety of initiatives to raise awareness about the role of pharmacy (personnel) as the custodians and gate keepers of medicine and accessibility to the

general public. In keeping in line with the theme, The pharmacy visited a high school, orphanage and old age home in the vicinity of King Edward VIII tertiary hospital.

#PharmacyMonth

#September2022

#Women_and_youth_Health

On

the 1st of September 2022 the Pharmacy Team officially opened Pharmacy Month by putting up a banner which had "PHARMACY MONTH" in bold and beautiful writing. Patients that were at the waiting area were taken through the process of what was happening and how will this assist them as the public going forward. Patients had an opportunity to ask pharmacy related questions.

IZWI LOMZANSI

06 September 2022 the Team had a radio interview with Izwi Lomzansi FM. Mr. Lucky Mtolo the Pharmacist together with his



two interns. Mr. S Mbanjwa and Mr. S. Hadebe as well as AD: Communications, Miss N. Ndlela visited the radio station. The interview was about Pharmacy Month, the role of a pharmacist, how one can become a pharmacist and subject that you need to study in order to become a pharmacist. The interview was a great success and we hope that

listeners gained a lot of knowledge about Pharmacy.

After the interview with Izwi Lomzansi, the Team had a Pharmacy Road Show in N & S-Block, merging with Quality assurance committee for commemoration of patients safety day "Medicine safety". The main aim for this road show was to create a sustainable social cohesion of the aligned healthcare workers, ensuring medicine safety.

The main and most important aim for this talk was to remind and teach about procedure that needs to be followed when there is a shortage of medication in the wards. The Nursing Staff raised concerns about issues that they sometimes encounter when interacting with the Pharmacy regarding the shortage of medication and



also how to cover those shortages. All concerns were addressed satisfactory. It was such a wonderful talk which left everyone having learnt a lot from it.

VUMA 103 FM VISIT

Raising awareness about Pharmacy Month did not only mean that you do it in your working area as a

health worker but the public also needs to gain knowledge in order to do the right thing while taking care of their health. The team had an interview with Vuma 103 FM on the 13th of September 2022. This interview was attended by Ms. Busi Nyide the Pharmacist and two Pharmacist interns, Ms. Nomfundo Ngobese and Ms. Nonjabulo Phakathi.

Many topics were discussed which led to listeners asking questions about what they have always wanted to ask a Pharmacist. This interview did not only raise awareness for the listeners but also the presenters who had so many questions concerning the way they take their treatment when sick. Judging from the listeners comments and calls we could safely say the interview was a great success.



EAST COAST RADIO

On the 16th of September 2022 the Pharmacy Team had another Radio interview (Podcast) with one of the most popular radio stations in Durban, East Coast Radio. It was mainly about raising awareness as well and making sure that the public gains more knowledge about Pharmacy Month. Topics that were discussed left the public with a better understanding and a clear picture about everything that is pharmacy related. They included an explanation of what is Pharmacy Month, Role of a Pharmacist, Who can become a Pharmacist and a typical day of a Pharmacist. The talk left even

and strong. The elders had so many questions about these topics and they made sure to ask everything they wanted to ask and point out their suggestions as well. Goodie bags which had toiletries, snacks and sandwiches were given to them together with a token saying “Thank You for your time”. The visit was a great success for both the team and the elders. We are hoping that they will keep this information with them, share it with others who did not attend and also continue to exercise and make sure to take their medication on given times.

VIBE FM

The Pharmacy Team visited a local radio station situated in KwaMashu for another interview about Pharmacy Month. It was also a great success and a wonderful experience for the team and the presenters.

and maintain a good lifestyle. It was a lot of fun and a great initiative to those who do not usually exercise.

ORPHANAGE HOME VISIT

On the 28th of September 2022 an Orphanage Center was visited. Since it was mostly teenagers who attended the awareness, the team spoke about topics that usually affect teenagers negatively. Depression, Drug Abuse and Mental Health had were topics for discussion, being the most factors that lead to teenagers having troubles or difficulties with their way of living or their health in general. In most cases when teenagers encounter problems they are scared to talk about it for the fear of being labeled and judged. This fear of being judged unfortunately leads to psychological and social well-being negatively affected which then lead to drug abuse and suicide.

MAYVILLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Drug and substance abuse, depression and abstinence has to be the most important topics when addressing teenagers or the youth nowadays. The scholars were very much open and asked everything that they wanted to gain knowledge in. Judging from the kind of questions that the team received it was quite clear that the visit was very much needed.

Learners also gained more knowledge about being a Pharmacist and the requirements needed by universities in order to qualify. Gifts and snacks were provided for everyone who attended including Educators.

Article by Sneathemba Shandu



presenter thinking of changing careers.

NATAL SETTLERS HOME

It was all smiles and happiness when the Pharmacy Team arrived at Natal Settlers Home for elderly people situated in Umbilo. Their talk was mainly based on conditions that usually affect the elderly; which is hypertension and diabetes, the importance of taking your prescribed medication on time, ensuring a correct diet and exercise in order to keep healthy

the “Practice what you preach”, after the running around raising awareness to the public about Pharmacy Month, the team had to come back to the hospital and do what they preached to the public. They did aerobics with the rest of the Pharmacy Team as part of exercising in order to keep healthy

AEROBICS





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EDITORIAL TEAM / DETAILS



Miss. Nontobeko Ndlela
PHOTOGRAPHER & CHIEF EDITOR



Miss Snethemba Shandu
WRITER



Mr. Lucky Mtolo
EDITOR

CONTACT DETAILS

Physical Address:

Corner Rick Turner & Sydney Road,
Umbilo, CONGELLA

Postal Address:

Private Bag X02
CONGELLA
4013

SWITCHBOARD

031 360 3111
www.kznhealth.gov.za

13



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health



KZN Department of Health



kznhealth



@kznhealth

**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**