## **CLAIRWOOD HOSPITAL**

# ZIYASHA

NEWS

Volume 1, issue No. 23

STAY INFORMED

**APRII 202** 

# CLAIRWOOD HOSPITAL STI AWARENESS AND CONDOM DISTRIBUTION WEEK

Awareness events on sexually transmitted infections and condom distribution week

Sexually transmitted infections are prevalent with people who are sexually active with more than one partner and not practicing safe sex . Discussion around ones sex life hardly takes place in families due to the embarrassment, cultural and religious factors. The fear of talking about sex life and sexually transmitted infections and diseases makes it difficult for one to seek help in health care settings. Clairwood hospital without fail always ensure that STI health education and condom distribution takes place every year. The primary aim is to give information to the public about STIs and to promote not just the use but proper use of condoms .



Males and female condoms dispensing box

Once again this year the awareness events were held from the 10-16 February 2021 in out-patient areas (Gateway and Thusong clinic) there were quite a number of activities which were planned and were led by staff members with vast knowledge of the subject. Ms. T.K. Kunene (Professional Nurse) and Ms. Queen Msimango (Lay Counselor) were responsible to initiate activities. During the first event Ms Msimango explained implications of not taking STI seriously as they do not only affect individual but can also harm an unborn baby in the case of a pregnant women. PTO

### Inside this issue



P. 01-02 Condom week awareness.



P.3 COVID-19 vaccination



P. 04 TB Awareness Day



Ms. Smangele Buthelezi and Ms. Sthandiwe Dlamuka (lay counsellors) during condom week awareness campaign.

The health education was demonstrated by pictures and sexual organ dummies . "If you notice unusual discharge in your private part, do not hesitate to go to your nearest clinic", she said. She further explained to the patients in details the causes, impacts and prevention methods. T.K. Kunene further demonstrated to the patients how to use, wrap and throw a used condom.

The second half of the week was concluded by Smangele Buthelezi and Sthandiwe Dlamuka lay counsellors who together gave health education to the public on how to wear, take off and safely dispose used condoms. The emphasis on disposing of condoms was the fact that some people do not throw used condoms in a proper manner which leads to children picking up used condoms thinking they are balloons.

She said if used condoms are wrapped and thrown in the bin children would not find them. Ms. Buthelezi explained the importance of female condoms in more details since after evaluation which was done by the health care workers, people take more male condoms than female condoms because they lack information about females condoms.

Condoms were distributed to everyone who was there except children. During the distribution the lay counsellors encouraged parents not to take condoms for themselves only but for their children who are at the age of being possibly sexually active. "Just take that pack, and drop it in his/her drawer", lay counsellor said.



A client taking condoms for her grandchild

These awareness campaings prove to be effective and are so important in a country like South Africa which is grappling with a high number of HIV and AIDS infections.

With the increasing numbers of patients diagnosed with sexually transmitted infections visiting our facility, the hospital plan is to spread campaign to the community and local factories in the area. Monitoring effected to evaluate the impact of such campaign in behavioural changes.

### Clairwood Hospital Covid-19 vaccination has commenced



ANM P. Zondi getting vaccinated

Dr. O. Francis (ACEO) getting vaccinated



Dr. Mabaso after taking the vaccine

hen the world including South Africa was hit by Corona Virus pandemic early last year, some people did not believe there was such virus. Fake news that spread like wild fires made some people to doubt the existence of the virus. The second wave was too infectious and many people were infected and many have died of the virus. We all have gone passed the stage of debating whether there is a virus or not, everyone now knows that Corona virus can be deadly.

The country is now securing vaccines for her citizens. Phase one will soon be completed and phase two of the vaccination will commence. Despite government and health care workers working hard to disseminate information It is unfortunate that there are still fake news about what is going to happen to those who decided to take

the vaccines. It is for this reason that the President Hon. CM Ramaphosa and the minister of health Dr Z Mkhize were publicly vaccinated just to allay fears and to show the whole country that whatever lies that are peddled about the vaccines are untrue.

The vaccination of staff at Clairwood Hospital was also led by the Acting Chief Executive Officer Dr O. Francis and Medical manager Dr. B. Mabaso. These senior hospital managers were among the first staff members to be vaccinated during the first round of vaccination in order to show the staff that taking of vaccine is not going to change any one to a zombie as some people have been made to believe. Prof Magula the head of Internal medicine faculty in UKZN also joined in to spread the message that all health care workers should take the vaccine in order to protect themselves from the virus.

# TB day commemoration

Ms. N.I. Latha giving health education

Ms. N. Mfeka Deputy Manager: Nursing

March is internationally recognised as the TB month. This declaration by world health organisation was to put more efforts in all activities that is meant to prevent, diagnose and treat TB from spreading among communities

Some of the focus areas during TB awareness day which was held in Clairwood hospital Gateway clinic was to educate the public on how to prevent TB infections and that all precautionary measures are adhered to e.g. proper ventilation in household areas and work place. This was coupled with information on immediate recognition of TB signs e.g. sweating at night , persistent coughing for more than two weeks, weight loss etc. the public was urged not to ignore these signs and were told to report to the nearest clinic.

In the 2021 TB day event at Clairwood Hospital, Ms. N. Latha (Nurse) gave health education to the members of the public who were visiting the clinic on the day. She gave education using catch phrases which are: What is TB, what are the symptoms, when do I go to the clinic, how will I be treated, why must I finish the TB treatment even though I feel better. She explained that these questions are important in order for one to understand the importance of visiting the clinic to check for TB and to finish treatment if diagnosed positive.

"Our government has made technology more advanced in such a way that we are able to check tuberculosis whether you have just eaten or not. The name of the machine is called gene expert ultra" said Ms. Latha answering a patient's question. She further explained the importance of knowing ones TB status as early as possible in order to prevent the bacteria from spreading to other parts of the body which may then become more difficult to treat.

### **CUSTOMER REVIEWS**

TO

### WARD 1B & 5B

OF WARD IB & 5B

I NOULD LIKE TO THANK EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU FOR THE WARMTH AND LOVE THAT YOU ALL HAD GIVEN ME DURING MY STAY AT THE HOSPITAL NITHOUT ALL DF YOU I WOULD NOT HAVE MADE IT THROUGH THIS DIFFICULT JOURNEY. YOUR LOVE AND CARE HAS BROUGHT ME BACK TO MY GOOD HEALTH TODAY. I WAS ABLE. TO GO HOME STRONG AND HEALTHY AND ITS ALL THANKS TO ALL OF YOU. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU STAY SAFE AND YOU WILL ALWAYS BE BLESSED

BIG THANKS

PC

MR SIVAWASAN GOVENDER



### **STAFF NOTICES**

Clairwood hospital management wishes to record its great sadness on the passing of the employees who were diligently serving the public. They made sacrifices even during this difficult time for the good of the public. Condolences goes to their families, and colleagues.

We salute them, they will forever be missed

### **FAREWELL NOTICES**

The management wishes to bid farewell to all employees who exited the service. Their hard work has not gone unnoticed by the management and by those whom they served all these years.

Working with you for all these years has been a joy, all the best in your future endeavors.

### **IXOXWA NGEZITHOMBE**



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TB day screening table

Staff during TB day event



Mr. R. Chetty (GO) after COVID-19 vaccination



Professional nurse waiting to be vaccinated

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**



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