



**health**

Department:  
Health  
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

PHARMACY WEEK 31 AUGUST-4 SEPTEMBER 2015

“CHRONIC DISEASES: TAKE CONTROL”

07 September 2015

# GJ Crookes Hospital



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**Fighting Disease, Fighting Poverty, Giving Hope**



This year, in the spirit of Pharmacy week G.J. Crookes Hospital Pharmacy embarked on a sustainability project at a disadvantaged primary school in the Haringworth area near Umzinto. St Odilo Primary school consists of about 113 learners and 7 educators. Although the school is maintained in a neat and pleasant fashion, the school faces many challenges. These include many children arriving at school hungry, although the school makes every effort to feed all children at lunch time. As well as no running clean water on a daily basis.

In an effort to assist with these challenges Mrs. N. Pillay (Pharmacy Manager) has been in communication with the relevant municipalities to investigate the water issues at the school. Our Pharmacy team decided to initiate the creation of a vegetable garden at the school with the help of Pastor Gona Govender who is learned in the topic of agriculture and farming and will be assisting in the maintenance of the garden. We had also received sponsorship of compost and seedlings from Bimla Construction. The importance of the garden is not only to provide the school with a means to feed more children but also to impart agricultural skills upon the learners. These skills can then be utilized outside of school where learners are able to make a living and provide a food source in homes where there is much need.

The theme for pharmacy week 2015 was "CHRONIC DISEASES: TAKE CONTROL," this was the central topic of all presentations and talks. The planned talks were given every day of the week to patients in our outpatients department as well as the doctors, wards and nursing staff revolving around chronic diseases that pertain to our community. This included talks on Asthma, Diabetes, Hypertension, Orthopedics and General health.

There were outreaches also scheduled for the week, which involved visiting an old age home, and a high school. Whilst groups went out to participate in outreach, our talks commenced at the hospital. Patients were informed on the topic of the day and were given presentations. We also received great involvement from our patients during quizzes, where they were awarded with prizes and gifts.



Umzinto Secondary School



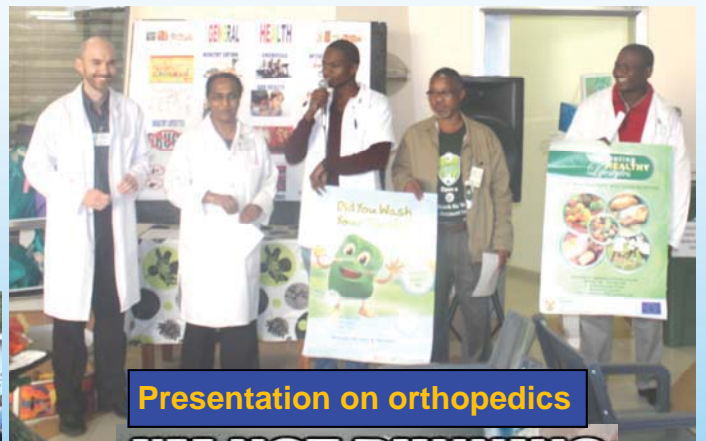
Presentation on diabetes



Esperanza old age home



Presentation on hypertension



Presentation on orthopedics



St Odilo primary school



Fighting Disease, Fighting Poverty, Giving Hope

Photo gallery of handing out of gift

