



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION SERVICES

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TO: ALL MEDIA

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EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEC TO RELEASE A FLEET OF NEW MOBILE CLINICS

"Access to health care is critical in improving health outcomes...we will improve access by providing new mobile clinics, building new clinics and new Community Health Centres". This is what the MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Mrs. Peggy Nkonyeni said when she delivered the 2006/7 budget speech. The department has already started to deliver on its promise of making health care accessible to all.

The MEC **will on Friday, 5 May 2006** release 74 brand new mobile clinics, which includes a 4x4 twin cab vehicle. The total expenditure amounts to R11, 941,000 and this includes the cost of purchasing the vehicles and the construction and fitting of capsules and fully convert them into mobile clinics. This expenditure was spent in the 2005/6 financial year.

As indicated in MEC's budget speech, more mobile clinics will be purchased during this 2006/7 financial year. Already 49 mobile units, one capsules and one 4x4 vehicle have been ordered for delivery this year.

The release of these vehicles means more people especially those in the rural areas will now have access to primary health care in areas where they live. They will also save on traveling cost as many had to travel long distances to get medical assistance at clinics and in hospitals.

The mobile clinics are manned by highly trained nurses and provide a number of services, which include immunization, family planning, antenatal clinic as well as voluntary counseling and testing for HIV.

The media is invited to attend and report on this event. Details are as follows:

DATE: 5 May 2006

VENUE: Wentworth Hospital, Durban

TIME: 10H00



A detailed media release on how these mobile clinics will be allocated will be handed out to the media at the event.

For more information please contact Leon Mbangwa on 083 459 8695

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