



HEALTH
KwaZulu-Natal

Natalia, 330 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201
Private Bag X 9051, Pietermaritzburg, 3200
Tel.: 033 395 2220, Fax.: 033 342 0429
Email.:mbali.thusi@kznhealth.gov.za
www.kznhealth.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA
DATE: 12 JUNE 2006
EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KZN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH APPOINTS THE NEW OMBUDSPERSON

The Provincial Department of Health would like to announce the appointment of Dr. Sibusiso Johannes Baptist Malinga as the Ombudsperson for the department. Achieving optimal health status for all persons in KwaZulu-Natal and treating everyone who visits the health institutions with dignity and respect still remains the vision of the KZN Health Department. The Provincial Department of Health wants to ensure that patient's rights are respected and that everyone who seeks medical care at our institutions receives compassionate care and that their rights are respected. Dr. Malinga is in charge of receiving and investigating complaints filed by patients and members of the public. His job is also to ensure that the department lives up to its mission, values and vision of ensuring that patients get quality care and treatment in all public health institutions in this province.

Dr. Malinga's appointment to this position in May 2006 follows the untimely death of Dr. Lesley Gumede in December last year. Dr Gumede had been in the position for just over a year.

Dr. Malinga holds a BSc degree with Chemistry and Biochemistry as major subjects. In 1995 he obtained the MBCHB degree from Medunsa and did his internship at Cecelia Makiwane Hospital and joined Edendale hospital the following year as a medical officer. He worked as medical manager at Christ the King hospital prior to his appointment as Ombudsperson. "My main area of focus is quality management so that we ensure efficient and effective health service delivery in all our health institutions", says Dr. Malinga.

The department would like to urge the public to make use of Dr Malinga's office to ensure that all complaints are timeously and effectively dealt with.

The Contact details:
The Ombudsman
P/Bag X9051
PIETERMARITZBURG
3200

Fax: (033) 394 0584

ENDS

-
- KINDLY RETURN ALL DOCUMENTATION WHEN REPLYING