
Reference: Port Shepstone Hospital
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Subject: RESPONSE TO THE SOUTH COAST HERALD QUESTIONNAIRE

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health is investigating circumstances around the death of a baby that allegedly fell off from an incubator at Port Shepstone Hospital.

The hospital report said the baby was allegedly jaundiced and undergoing phototherapy when the incident occurred on 13 February.

It is alleged that the baby fell off the incubator. Since the incident, the baby has had intermittent apnoea and bloody naso-gastric drainage. The next day, the baby developed a blocked tube whilst being hand-bagged. The baby was airlifted to Inkosi Albert Luthuli Hospital where he later demised.

Reports have been taken from the staff members that were present when the baby fell and the investigation is underway. Another staff meeting regarding the incident will be held on Monday so that the hospital could get to the bottom of the matter.

The department would await the outcome of the internal investigation and hope that appropriate action will be taken if it is found that there was any negligence on behalf of the staff.

Issued by: Mr. Leon Mbangwa
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