



HEALTH
KwaZulu-Natal

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EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE: TIDAL WARNING ADDINGTON HOSPITAL ON ALERT!

The tidal wave warning that has been issued by the Durban's Weather Bureau and the search and rescue services has forced the Department of Health to put the Addington Hospital on alert.

It is expected that the high tide wave will hit the Durban shores around 16h00 today and in the early hours of tomorrow morning. The Addington Hospital, being along the shore, has been put on alert. A Joint Operations Committee (JOC) comprising of the eThekweni Disaster Management, the Emergency Medical Rescue Services (EMRS) of the Department of Health and officials of the department have met today to make necessary preparations in case of a disaster hitting eThekweni again.

The public is urged to use other institutions should they require medical attention until the situation is declared calm. Patients in the hospital wards will be care for at Addington Hospital until the JOC decides otherwise. The department has mobilized its resources to deal with any eventuality with the EMRS and Air Ambulances being placed on stand-by. Should the JOC feels that the hospital is threatened; the South African Police Service and the South African National defense Force will be mobilized to assist in moving patients to other hospitals and to cordon the hospital off.

ENDS

Issued by the Department of Health, KwaZulu Natal

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