

Media Alert: MEC resumes unannounced visits to check on progress in service delivery improvements in 10 hospitals

TO: ALL MEDIA
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Today; the MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo will visit RK Khan Hospital in Chatsworth where a number of people continue to raise service delivery concerns despite the MEC having met and directed hospital CEOs to fast track improvements.

The MEC is expected to arrive today (Tuesday, 24 May 2011) at 08h15 at the RK Khan Hospital in Chatsworth which is one of the hospitals that the MEC will be visiting in the list of ten hospitals. Journalists are invited to be part of the MEC's visit and will be accorded the opportunity to speak to the MEC, patients or staff.

Towards the end of 2009 and in the beginning of 2010, the Minister of Health Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, and the MEC met all hospital CEOs to give them directives on areas where immediate improvements are expected. Among these was reduction of long queues, provision of medicines in time, cleanliness, walk about by management, improvement of staff attitudes and safety and security in hospitals.

The MEC will resume unannounced visits to a list of ten hospitals that continue to feature in headlines as poorly serving communities. During these visits, the MEC will like to hear from patients about their concerns and also address management and staff on the importance of the fast tracking service delivery improvements.

He will also remind nurses, in particular, about the Nurses Compact/Declaration that was adopted at the recently held Nursing summit in April this year where there was a joint commitment to improving the delivery of healthcare services especially maternal and child care.

Ends

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