

TO: ALL MEDIA
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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement on the 'closure' of laboratories by NHLS

The KZN Department of Health is aware that some institutions have been advised of an intention by the National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) to close laboratories in the various facilities. At this stage we are not aware of a closure of any laboratory in the Province.

The Department wishes to assure the public that the provision of health care will not be allowed to be compromised no matter what decision the NHLS adopts. We are working tirelessly with our National office, the Office of the Premier and the Treasury to ensure that the impasse with NHLS is speedily resolved.

Furthermore; the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health continues to make monthly payments of R43 million towards the NHLS and has not reneged on this commitment.

The public, NHLS staff and all concerned will be kept abreast of developments in due course.

ENDS
ISSUED BY:

KWAZULU-NATAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH