

MEDIA RELEASE
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KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo decries the early demise of a young brilliant Doctor

MEC Dhlomo says he will try by all means to readjust his schedule in order to attend the funeral of the late Dr Brian Nhlanhla Champion.

Dr Champion met his untimely death in a motor vehicle accident whilst travelling from Durban to Pietermaritzburg around 3h30 on Saturday, the 12th. His friend and colleague who was driving behind him, Dr Mzwakhile Sithole, says they were all going to attend a traditional function of another colleague when the accident happened. He says the road was slippery and suspects that Dr Champion lost control of his vehicle when he changed lanes. His car rammed into the side kerbs and caught alight.

MEC Dhlomo has been made to understand that passers-by assisted in dragging Dr Champion out of the burning vehicle and was then transported by an Ambulance to Hillcrest Private Hospital where he passed on.

'I am very saddened by the sudden death of this colleague who completed his MBCHB at Nelson Mandela School of Medicine just in 2010. He served his two year internship at Prince Mshiyeni Memorial Hospital, when I was already an MEC for the Department. He went on to do his Community service at HLABISA Hospital where he spent three years servicing our people in that rural community of UMkhanyakude District. He came back to Durban and worked as a Medical Officer at Addington Hospital before venturing to open his own practice at Newlands West. Dr Champion will be solely missed across the wide spectrum of our Province,' says Dhlomo.

His high school friend and a colleague, Dr Mzwakhile Sithole says they were all looking forward to Dr Champion's wedding day ceremony early next year, February 06, with all the lobolo and the Ballito wedding venue having been paid for.

The funeral service will be held at Ntuzuma in the coming weekend. Dr Champion, affectionately called "Chakaruma Mfundisi" by his friends, leaves behind his parents; fiancée and two children.

ENDS.