

MEDIA STATEMENT:

21 July 2015

Emergency Medical Services staff warned about consequences of illegal strike

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health has noted media reports on threats of a strike by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) staff from Wednesday, 22 July 2015, which are attributed to labour union NUPSAW.

If these reports are true, the Department would like to remind EMS staff that their work is classified as essential services, which makes it illegal for them to embark on strike action.

Even if EMS were a non-essential service, which would allow them to strike, they would still be required to follow legal processes in accordance with the Labour Relations Act before embarking on a strike.

If EMS staff embark on this illegal strike, as reported in the media, the Department will not hesitate to take action in accordance with the law, including applying the principle of no work, no pay.

ENDS

Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health