

MEDIA ALERT
05 May 2016
To : All Media
Attention : News Editors/ Health Journalists

KZN Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, to condemn incorrect and irresponsible statement by DA MPL Imraan Keeka in Legislature

IN THE next sitting of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature, Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, will table a motion where he will condemn an incorrect and irresponsible statement by DA MPL Keeka over a purported klebsiella outbreak.

MEC Dhlomo will tell this august House that Dr Keeka:

- Is Not able to define an outbreak,
- That an outbreak is a sudden, unexpected proliferation of a disease in a community where there is little or no plan to intervene in such,
- That it is incorrect to say there is a Klebsiella outbreak at Mahatma Gandhi hospital - something which was last experience 11 years ago in the same hospital;
- That Dr Keeka is not able to tell the difference between a Klebsiella infection (which happened in 2005) and Klebsiella bowel colonisation, which is what was experienced in April 2016 on 10 babies at this hospital;
- That this careless statement has caused panic and concern among citizens;

MEC Dhlomo will also announce that of the 10 babies in hospital, eight have since been discharged after four were treated and four were observed in the hospital. One baby remains in hospital under observation and one passed on at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Hospital, due to conditions unrelated to Klebsiella.

MEC Dhlomo will also tell the House that that there is no reason to panic, while also calling upon members of society to ignore the DA false alarm statement.