

KZN Health MEC denounces macabre hoax Facebook message on purported Ambulance hijack

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KZN Health MEC Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo has strongly denounced the hoax Facebook entry alleging that an Ambulance from Port Shepstone was hijacked and its passengers including patients decapitated.

Reacting to this false alarm, MEC Dhlomo has described it as "macabre, misleading, mischievous and plain sickening".

The message, which is written in IsiZulu language, with poor grammar and spelling and is still in circulation, reads as follows: *Ezibuhlungu azipheli kaze soneni kangaka sabantu besfazane...izolo kune ambulance ebisuka e Marchison hospital ihambisa ezguli ebezi tranfer e Nkosi albert hospital kulezo ziguli bekuno cc ona 8 mnths preg bese kuma omama ababili kube ama paramedics amabili ngeshwake ambulance ayzange isafika e albert bt itholakale mawdlula kancane nje escourburg phakathi ehlathini odrive bajoviwe baboshwa iznyawo nezandla bavalwa imlomo iziguli ezimbili zikhishwe wonke ama inside part okubalwa isbindi inhliziyo amaphaphu izinso lo cc okhulelwa ukhishe ingane esiswini zashiywa kanjalo izdumbu zidindilizile e ambulancin...am so traumatise bomama kumanje ngigodukisiwe ngendlela engiyiyona ngthuke kakhulu nd kyacaca ukuthi ukube bengsebenza inyt shift bengzoba omunye kulaba ababulewe cz iteam yami le engsebenza nayo ebi driver le ambulance...ngyacela bomama abakhulelwe nabangakhulelwe skhulekeni ngempela manje futhi siqaphe*

In a nut-shell, it alleges that yesterday an Ambulance transferring an eight [8] month pregnant woman and two other female patients from Murchison Hospital to Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital was hijacked around Scottburgh.

It further claims that the Paramedics were injected with an unknown substance; had their feet and hands tied and their mouths gagged. It then says the patients had their inside parts gouged including the baby in the womb of the pregnant patients.

MEC Dhlomo says no such incident took place and that all its Emergency Medical Services personnel including its vehicles are well accounted for. The SAPS in the area has also refuted any hijacking incident of this sort taking place in their area of jurisdiction. MEC, in denouncing the entry, said: *Fake news is something else but this is sickening; worrisome and very macabre – it actually borders on dangerous voodoo practices. At best, I think the person who posted this disturbing message requires urgent help. Clinically speaking, people who harbour such ghoulish thoughts are actually a danger to themselves and to others in their midst. We also wish to appeal to the public to be wary of the evil and senseless intentions of information peddlers and scare-mongers whose only wish is to mislead people and sow feelings of terror and mischief. Only trust information if it is from well-recognised and established sources of news.*