

Only 16 months to go before the new Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme hospital opens, facility will alleviate pressure on Mahatma Gandhi Hospital

27 January 2018

In just 16 months, the brand new 500-bed Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Memorial Hospital will open its doors, bringing quality healthcare service delivery to more than 1,5 million people of Inanda, Ntuzuma, KwaMashu (INK) and surrounding areas.

The R2,5bn level 2 regional hospital, near Bridge City mall, north of Durban, will serve as a referral centre for all surrounding public health care facilities, and will alleviate pressure from the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital, which currently has a massive catchment area.

This was said by KZN Health MEC Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo during a site inspection at the brand new hospital yesterday. (26 January 2018)

Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme – whom the facility is named after - was one of the first black lawyers in South Africa and became a president of the African National Congress between 1930 and 1936. He married Princess Phikisinkosi Zulu, the eldest daughter of King Dinuzulu.

Yesterday, accompanied by members of the Zulu royal household; family of Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme from Inanda and senior management of the KZN Department of Health, MEC Dhlomo said the brand new hospital will change many lives.

"Once the Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Memorial Hospital is complete, it will decrease the volume of patients and ease congestion at Mahatma Gandhi Memorial and King Edward VIII hospitals. In the north of Durban, there are close to 1,5 million people. Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital is the only hospital that is functioning. Every good work that you do at Mahatma Gandhi, people will not see it because there are too many patients for one facility. We are therefore looking forward to the completion of this hospital because among other things, it will alleviate the pressure at Mahatma Gandhi Hospital. We really can't wait," MEC Dhlomo said.

The new hospital will prove a full spectrum of up-to-date world-standard medical services consistent with the norms and standards adopted for all public health facilities in South Africa.

Since construction began in 2015, 1 802 people have been employed, including 1 167 made up of locals; 163 women; 986 youth and two disabled.

Among its many innovations is a water harvesting feature through which rainwater will be harvested and then used for irrigation and ablution.



Mr Vezindaba Seme (grandson of Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme); with MEC Dhlomo; Prince Mbonisi Zulu and Acting Head: Health Dr Musa Gumede



An artist's impression of the finished Dr Pixley ka Isaka Seme Hospital