



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**

**HEALTH**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**NGWELEZANA TERTIARY HOSPITAL**  
“Our patients, our priority”

# NGWELEZANA NEWS HUB

# NEWS

JAN—MAR 2022

## FIRST BRIDGE BONE EAR IMPLANT PERFORMED IN NGWELEZANA TERTIARY HOSPITAL



**Signing of service commitment charter**  
*Read more on page 03*



**Salt awareness**  
*Read more on page 05*



**Taking care of your eyes, Glaucoma Awareness**



# BRIDGE BONE EAR IMPLANT



Medical team during the surgery



Ms Siphokazi Lentsoe and her grandmother with Ms Linda Zitha – Audiologist



Multi disciplinary team led by Dr Seteoba

**O**n the 7th of March 2022, Ngwelezana Tertiary Hospital ENT team led by ENT specialist Dr Lungile Seteoba conducted the 1st bone bridge middle ear implant surgery supported by multidisciplinary team. Ngwelezana Tertiary Hospital is the fourth public hospital in South Africa to conduct this kind of surgery, following Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital in Gauteng, Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital in Eastern Cape and Tygerberg Tertiary Hospital in Western Cape. The first patient who benefited from the surgery was Siphokazi Lentsoe who is 13 years old diagnosed with severe conductive hearing loss at the age of 4 years and has been in and out of hospitals to date. The audio processor was switched on by the resident Audiologist Ms. Lindokuhle Zitha on the 5th of April 2022. Ms. Siphokazi Lentsoe will continue to be seen by the team as she carries her journey of hearing better and developing speech and language with Speech therapy facilitated by Ms. Nomvelo Ndlovu.

The Audiology and ENT department at Ngwelezana tertiary hospital is part of the KwaZulu –Natal Auditory Implant Program (KZN AIP). It is a program that includes of a multidisciplinary team to provide auditory implants for patients with hearing loss in our province. Auditory implants are devices that aid in restoring hearing and communication abilities to individuals with severe and profound hearing impairment. Types of auditory implants include: bone anchored hearing aids (BAHA), middle ear implants (e.g. sound bridge), cochlear implants and auditory brainstem implants. All these devices address hearing loss at different levels of the auditory system, accompanied by specific indications. A middle ear implant is suitable for patients with a mild-moderate mixed or conductive or sensorineural hearing loss. It offers an alternative to the conventional hearing aids. It can be considered in patients who have earmould allergies, skin disorders, otitis externa, narrow/collapsed canals, or in cases of ear malformations. All patients with middle ear problems that result in a hearing loss must be assessed by the Audiologist and ENT specialist at Ngwelezana hospital to see if they are candidates for the BAHA.





# SIGNING OF SERVICE COMMITMENT CHARTER



Mrs. CNN Mkhwanazi (Acting CEO) and Mr. NW Qwabe (Hospital board chairperson) during the signing of service

**O**n the 9th of February 2022, Ngwelezana Tertiary hospital management and the hospital board signed the service commitment charter.

This commitment charter aim to inform our patients in Region 4 about our commitment to serves their needs as prescribed by our vision ; *An accessible health facility that renders cost effective and quality health care services with developing tertiary services for the citizens of Region 4.*

Ngwelezana Tertiary hospital service commitment charter is in line with Batho Pele principles and we ensures that the right of health care users are met. This will be achieved by strong focus on the following service standards :

- Patients will be attended to within four (4) hours on the same day.
- Cleanliness of the environment will be promoted.
- All Health Care Workers shall introduce themselves during all interventions.
- All Health Care Workers will be identified by wearing name badges.
- Patients will be addressed in a culturally respectful manner.
- Hand washing facilities will be provided.
- Complaints received will be resolved within twenty five (25) working days and the complainant will be informed of the progress.
- Medications will be available to all clients visiting the health facility at all times.





# HEALTHY LIFESTYLE WEEK



HR team and the Ms Weideman (dietician) during healthy life style week commemoration

**N**ational healthy life style awareness day is commemorated every February . The focus of the day was based on South African's Food Based Dietary Guidelines which promote overall healthy eating for all South-Africans.

According to StatsSA, 68% of women and 31% of men in South Africa suffer from overweight and obesity. This is as a result of long term unhealthy eating as well as living a sedentary lifestyle. This increases the risk of the chronic disease of lifestyle such as Diabetes, hypertension etc. It also decreases your immunity and puts you at greater risk of developing other communicable diseases.

The Dietetics department hosted group presentations to the HR department, and EMU staff. Posters were displayed in all wards, these encouraged staff members to pick one of the 'food-based dietary guidelines' and to try implement this message in their daily lifestyle. Overall, there was a very positive response and people were engaged and eagerly ask questions! All employees are encouraged to live a healthy lifestyle to prolong individual life expectancy.





# SALT AWARENESS

**S**alt Awareness week took place from the 14-20 March 2022, the aim of the awareness is to give spotlight on a simple yet affective approach that can improve our health by shaking the salt habit.

The dietetics department hosted activities during this week to promote Salt Awareness Week by visiting Ngwelezana hospital Renal unit and Thokozani Clinic. Patients and staff members were educated on the importance of eating less salt, as well as foods high in salt which should be limited.

Patients were capacitated with information to help them read food labels when doing grocery shopping. Tools given were to help patients to identify and measure foods which are high in salt.

Bean seeds were also distributed, to encourage people to start vegetable gardens at home. It is hoped that all those that attended the awareness found it helpful and have been inspired to make dietary changes.

***The public is urged to eat less salt and to use salt free herbs and spices to flavor their foods.***



Renal unit team & Ms. Weideman (dietician)



Dieticians giving health education to patients & staff



Salt awareness at Thokozani Clinic  
Critical patient arriving at EMU

05



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**  
HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



KwaZulu-Natal Department of Health



kznhealth



@kznhealth





# GLAUCOMA AWARENESS



**Dr. Biju-mark assessing the patient during Glaucoma awareness**

**W**orld Glaucoma week is commemorated to raise awareness about the silent robber of vision. It is the second-biggest cause of blindness after cataracts.

According to World Health Organization, Glaucoma is one of the top ten diseases that lead to blindness. A conservative estimate of the prevalence of glaucoma in Africa is that it occurs in 4% of people older than 40.

In South Africa glaucoma affects up to 5.3% of people in this age group. The proportion of blindness that can be attributed to glaucoma in South Africa is 23%.

If it is left untreated, most types of Glaucoma progress towards gradually worsening

visual damage and may lead to blindness. Ngwelezana Tertiary hospital successfully commemorated Glaucoma awareness campaign on the 31 of March 2022.

Health education on Glaucoma was given to outpatients. The aim of the awareness was to

- Inform the community about what glaucoma is
- Inform the community about causes of glaucoma
- give information on how to deal with glaucoma on patient who are already affected
- Educate about blindness /prevention & maintenance of vision.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**Mr S.E Buthelezi**  
WRITER — PRO



**Ms S.N Mgabhi**  
DESIGNER — PRO INTERN



**Mrs CNN Mkhwanazi**  
EDITOR — ACEO



**Mrs N. Ntenganyane**  
EDITOR — RADIOGRAPHER



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**  
HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## CONTACT DETAILS

**Physical Address:** Thanduyise  
Road  
Ngwelezana township  
Empangeni  
3880

**Postal Address:** Private bag X  
20021  
Empangeni 3880

**SWITCH BOARD:**  
035 901 7000

**FAX NUMBER:**  
035 795 1684

**Email address :**  
[pro.ngwelezana@kznhealth.gov.za](mailto:pro.ngwelezana@kznhealth.gov.za)



**KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE**  
HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

