



NORTHDALÉ HOSPITAL

Follow hand hygiene and food safety practices

FACTS ABOUT
CHOLERA



YOUTH DAY
BUILD UP QUOTES

**KZN PREMIER
HELD SUCCESSFUL
SERVICE DELIVERY
IMBIZO AT
MPOPHOMENI
AREA.**

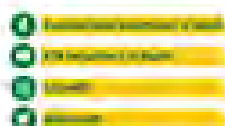


(Image by: Premier's office)

KZN Premier, Honourable Nomusa Dube-Ncube speaking at an event.

The KwaZulu Natal Cabinet led by the Premier, Honourable Nomusa Dube-Ncube visited Mpopphoneni area for the Premier's Service Delivery Imbizo programme. The Premier Dube – Ncube came accompanied by all MEC's from various government departments in the province of KwaZulu Natal.

The purpose of Premier's Service Delivery Imbizo was to afford an opportunity for direct engagement between the government officials and community members. Community members used this opportunity to engage on issues related to service delivery in the area and community development in various parts of the District.





KZN HEALTH MEC MS NOMAGUGU SIMELANE, NORTHDALE HOSPITAL CEO MS NOBUKHOSI XULU, MPOPHOMENI CLINIC OPERATIONAL MANAGER MR SANELE MADLALA DISCUSSION DURING MEC VISIT TO THE CLINIC

On the 15th of July 2023, Imbizo was held at uMgungundlovu District Municipality, Mpophomeni Sports Ground where the community engagement took place.

The Service Delivery Imbizo is one of the government outreach programmes that is utilised as a vehicle to achieve Universal access to health care services by all communities, which is in-line with National Development Plan (NDP) Vision 2030, where Government need to open platform for citizen to participate in their own development.

The Premier held Imbizo as a gesture to encourage community involvement in decision making, such that government services are designed to respond to the population needs. Imbizo affords the platform for the community to hold government officials accountable for service delivery in all government sectors.

On this day, The MEC for KZN Health, Ms Nomagugu Simelane visited Mpophomeni clinic.

The MEC conducted a walk about within the clinic together with District Director Dr T. Zulu and district team, The CEO of Northdale Hospital and hospital team as well as the Operational Manager of the clinic Mr Sanele Madlala were also part of the walk about.

During walk about, OPM of the clinic had an opportunity to showcase the operations of the clinic, engage on challenges and improvements on quality service delivery with the MEC and senior officials of the department which the MEC assisted with advice and interventions.

The MEC was happy that Mpophomeni clinic has a Pelebox within the facility, which dispense over 1500 pre-packed chronic medication parcels to patients. Pelebox is a dispensing system, which is cost-effective, convenient, and accessible.

It is available 24 hours a day, also reduce defaulter rate for chronic medication and possible contribute to adherence.

People collecting their medication from the Pelebox are stable patients that are controlled on chronic medication, who do not require medical assessment and / or investigations monthly. Overall, the MEC was comfortable with the status of the clinic and its functionality, she however, emphasized the need for continuous improvement to achieve client satisfaction.

While the programme was continuing inside the marquee, health care workers were providing services such as the treatment of minor ailments, Dental care, Eye care, HIV & TB and Cervical cancer screening, medical male circumcisions etc. The MEC, Ms Nomagugu Simelane also issued to identified community members, Eye glasses, wheel-chairs and walking sticks.



NURSE'S DAY CELEBRATION

Northdale Hospital Celebrated Nurses Day 2023

Northdale hospital celebrated Nurses Day 2023 under the Theme “Our Nurses. Our Future”.

This day started with the nurses observing the moment of silence to pay respect to a Professional Nurse who was employed at Northdale hospital, who passed on when the International nurse’s day, 12th May 2023 is celebrated, while she was on her way to work. The hospital would like to salute all our fallen heroes.

May their soul rest in peace.

The day was celebrated to honour the hard work and commitment of Northdale hospital nurses under very challenging conditions that nurses are facing on daily basis. The Theme for 2023 talk about the future and what nursing want for future in order to address the health challenges and bring improvement in the health environment.

It is a fact that there is no hospital that can function without having a nurse in the ward. All health facilities requires presence of nursing service in order to achieve the purpose of caring and treating patients.

The presence of nursing is the key in the health environment because nurses are trained to understand the complex nature of maintaining health and wellness, and the impact of psychosocial and socio-economic factors such as poverty, unemployment and ethnicity that comes forward with different patients presented in health facilities.



Northdale Hospital Celebrated Nurses Day 2023



Ms Nobukhosi Xulu - Northdale Hospital CEO

When the CEO of Northdale hospital Ms. Nobukhosi Xulu addressed the nurses on the day, as a motivational speaker, she said “Nursing, as a profession, has a very broad scope of responsibility, and I experienced this when there was a national strike in March this year. I decided to go and work in the medical wards, and I noticed the gradual changes to the type of patients and little technological advances to match the patient care demands on the side of the nurses.

Our wards are always full, with a huge burden of diseases around society people are coming in with multiple comorbid diseases and all of them are relying on the knowledge, skills, and experience of the nurses for assistance”. The CEO also delved on the issue of the staff shortages, indicating that the shortage of staff and insufficient resources make the situation worse and harder for the nurses who are directly involved in the care of the patients in the wards.

While the scarcity of the resources may be deepening the crisis within the public service, we need to learn to make use of what is at our disposal without compromising the standards of care delivered to our patients, key to this is teamwork.”

She urged nurses to learn and benchmark from each other, to support each other avoiding unhealthy competitions.

She concluded by thanking all nurses working at Northdale hospital and encouraged them to enrol for short courses for continued development and learning. Ms Xulu advised the nurses not to limit their career advancement to the traditional hierarchical norm but be open minded to other available opportunities that require the nursing qualification and background. It is important that we continue to develop nurse leaders in the nursing profession, who will take stock of the profession and chart the path towards the rightful recognition of the nurses and the nursing profession.

It cannot be ignored that the nursing profession remains a sub profession, this requires the voices of a united nursing force who will be readily available to take this struggle for recognition forth until Nursing is as valued and recognized equally with other professions. Nurses must participate in discussion forums and take a lead to voice and struggle against issues that are affecting them, they cannot abdicate this role to other categories of staff who falls outside the nursing profession and are not subdued to the same plight facing the nurses.



Director of Nursing Mrs C. M Sosibo, the guest speaker, highlighted the importance of establishing professional relations in a work environment, where we are all patient first with ourselves and then with those around us. Learning to understand each other at the level of the colleagues is very important, she urged nurses to create an environment where they will encourage and support each other.

Mrs C. M Sosibo said, "Nurses are chosen individuals in the society to serve the communities. Patients are spending the last moments of their lives under the care of the nurses and that calls for a nurse to treat a patient in a holistic manner such that even when the patients passes on, they do so in a comfortable and peaceful environment." Only a nurse is able to provide this level of care.



Mrs C. M Sosibo
Director of Nursing
KZN DOH



Mr C.Z Biyela
Deputy Nursing Manager
Northdale Hospital

The Director reminded nurses about the importance of maintaining quality patient records. She indicated that it is important to document everything in the patient file because today those notes are referred to as patient notes but tomorrow they become legal notes or legal documents.

Nursing notes present the side of the nurse and are the admissible and primary defence for the nurse if annotated correctly and maintained safely over a period.



NORTHDALE HOSPITAL TOOK ISIBHEDLELA KUBANTU TO MPOPHOMENI AREA.

Isibhedlela kubantu is one of the best initiatives in the health systems and a vehicle towards the realization of universal access to health care services by the communities. On the 21st of April 2023 Northdale hospital held a programme of Isibhedlela Kubantu at Mpophomeni area under Umngeni Subdistrict.

Communities in this area received health care services at Mpophomeni clinic which is a 24 hours service clinic that refers patients to Northdale hospital for further management as a referral hospital.

The Primary Health Care team led by Mr Mhlengi Zuma, the team, working with the local community leaders organized this programme of Isibhedlela Kubantu to assist Mpophomeni residents and afford access to primary health care and hospital level services to the disadvantaged communities.

There was a variety of services that were provided on this day, and they included TB and HIV screenings, Dental services, Eye clinic services, Cervical Cancer screening, Mobile X-rays and Male Medical Circumcisions.

This programme of Isibhedlela Kubantu was honoured by the presence of uMgungundlovu District Mayor Cllr Mzi Zuma and he was accompanied local mayor of Umngeni sub-district Cllr C. Pappas, ward Counsellors of Umngeni, Umgungundlovu Health District Director Dr Thandeka Zulu, Chief Executive Officer of Northdale hospital Ms Nobukhosi Xulu.

When District Mayor Cllr Mzi Zuma engaged with the community, he expressed gratitude to the hospital and the district office for coming out with such good an impactful programme that benefits people with a comprehensive health service package, at no cost.

He encouraged the community to utilize services available on the day and urged communities to work together with health professionals especially at a local clinic.



Cllr Mzi Zuma - District Mayor addressing community during Isibhela Kubantu.

When the CEO for Northdale hospital introduced Mr Mhlengi Zuma as a newly appointed PHC Coordinator, she informed the community that Mr M. Zuma is responsible for the management of local clinics under Northdale hospital which includes Mpophomeni clinic.

She urged the community to follow appropriate communication channels to report complaints about service delivery at the clinic, that will assist to promptly address service delivery gaps, improve the standards of care and service delivery at a local level, ensuring that services are accessible, affordable, and efficient in prolonging the lives of the communities thus reducing the health care costs associated with the burden of disease, which is what the National Health Insurance seeks to achieve.



MANAGEMENT EMBARK ON IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE

Northdale is counted amongst oldest hospitals under UMGungundlovu district. This is a hospital which was built a long time ago to serve catchment area of northern areas of Pietermaritzburg. This hospital was built in 1974 and at that time the population was not as huge as it is today. The infrastructure of the hospital has become old over the years and some parts of the hospital requires constant maintenance intervention.

Executive management of the hospital has started to improve hospital infrastructure by renovating parts of the hospital. The sitting management took a decision to move Gateway Clinic which was all along attached to MOPD section and relocate it to the newly renovated area in the Palace. This decision came with an opportunity for improvement in MOPD to allow for renovations aimed at improving the infrastructure.



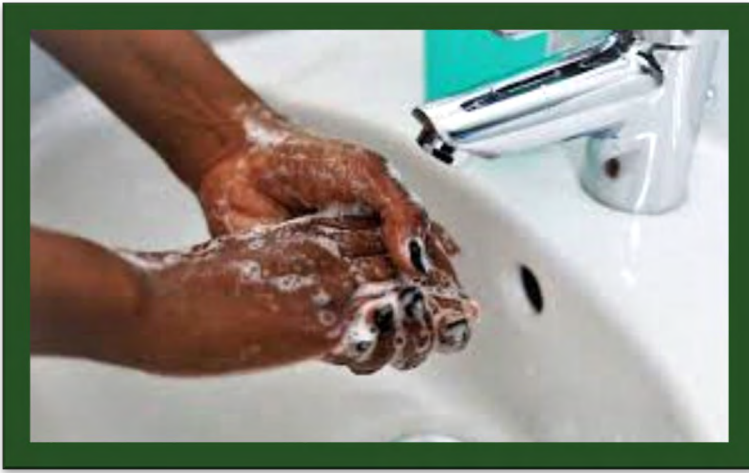
NORTHDALE HOSPITAL MAIN-ENTRANCE

These renovations will improve patient confidentiality, privacy, build trust and restore dignity to all our health care users. There will be increased safe space for patients and private consultations which will strengthen honesty between doctors and patients during consultation sessions.

KZN health department invested funds in the project for the renovations of the staff residence. Renovations to the staff residence are long overdue, the building has been gradually dilapidating threatening the safety of all the occupants. The project has begun and once it is finished the hospital will have accommodation that is safe to house employees especially those that will qualify to stay in the staff residence as per the employee housing policy.

Communication is a critical tool in the link between the hospital and the public. In the presence of the changes and the relocation of some services to other areas within the institution, signage has also been improved. This is to assist the clients and their families to easily identify new location of services and to inform clients about the service package that is offered at these service points. We pray for the cooperation of our clients and staff, understanding the impasse that emanate from change at a natural space. The hospital management is also mindful of the fact that, with transformation, change is inevitable.

All these new changes are taking place to improve service delivery by the hospital.



FOLLOW HAND HYGIENE AND FOOD SAFETY PRACTICE

Following the outbreak of Cholera in the past few months in certain part of South Africa, Northdale hospital has decided to strengthen health education about the importance of hand hygiene and food safety practice. This is done by health professional workers for patients in different waiting areas in the hospital.

Patients are being educated on good hygiene which includes importance of ensuring that people consume clean water for drinking, adequate sanitation facilities and ensuring hand washing before eating and after using the toilet.

These are highlighted as measures to practice in reducing the risks of cholera.

In ensuring that the community understands what Cholera is, health professionals assumed a responsibility to educate and explain to patients and communities about Cholera.

Cholera is an infectious disease caused by the bacteria which is transmitted via contaminated water or contaminated food. There are common symptoms of cholera which can include the following:

- Extensive watery diarrhoea
- Severe Vomiting
- Nausea
- Dehydration
- Loss of electrolytes
- Muscle cramps



It is important for the community to understand that severe dehydration and loss of electrolytes from the body through vomiting and diarrhoea can cause death to those who have become victims of cholera.

Cholera can affect both children and elderly people and that is why it is crucial for elderly to understand the important of practicing hand hygiene and food safety as a regular standard to practice and also to teach their children.

The community is highly encouraged to visit their local clinic or to seek medical health as soon as possible if they notice the above symptoms of Cholera, because unnecessary delays may cause more damage which can result to death.



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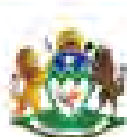
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