



**health**

Department:  
Health  
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

**Umgeni Hospital**

**Umgeni**

**NEWS**

Special Edition 02/2019

# **UMGENI HOSPITAL COMMEMORATES...**

## **WORLD PATIENT SAFETY DAY**

**THE FIRST OF ITS KIND!**

**THEME:**

**“Patient Safety: A Global Health Priority”**



**World  
Patient Safety  
Day** 17 September 2019



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# THE FIRST WORLD PATIENT SAFETY DAY AT UMGENI HOSPITAL



Hospital Entrance  
(Reception Area)

In response to the call from National Department of Health (NDoH) for all health facilities to commemorate the First World Patient Safety Day, Umgeni Hospital engaged in various activities to highlight the importance of patient safety and pledge commitment to Patient Safety as a Priority.

The activities took place over two days... Starting on the 17th September 2019 which is World Patient Safety Day: Umgeni Specialized Psychiatric Hospital began with decoration of the main hospital entrance, and staff pledging commitment to Patient Safety, by putting their handprints and signatures on a banner. Posters created by various sections of the hospital including private service providers were displayed, and pot plants and flower arrangements incorporated the theme colour ~ Orange. Staff were encouraged to wear orange and black over the two days, and enthusiastically adopted this in a display of orange t-shirts, caps, and scarves.



**Hospital Reception area...**



**Senior Management after pledging their commitment to Patient Safety**



**Miss Ndlovu (CEO) & Mr Mjaja (AD: Pharmaceutical Services)**

A bold statement of the Patient Safety Commitment was to paint the tree at the main hospital entrance with an Orange Ribbon, an ongoing reminder to Healthcare Workers as they enter the hospital, of their pledge, and demonstrating to Healthcare Users, the community, and visitors, as they enter the facility that Umgeni Hospital is committed to Patient Safety as a priority.



On Wednesday the 18th September 2019, further activities and a formal programme took place. The local Salvation Army Band led a march from the hospital to a nearby shopping center, and back. The Hospital Patient Band played at the shopping center, wearing orange T-shirts. Members from the Hospital Board and local council wholeheartedly supported the event, and participated in the activities. The local Traffic Department assisted in traffic and crowd control on the day.





Members of the local community also put their handprints on the banner in recognition of World Patient Safety Day.

The march was concluded in a formal programme at which Mrs F. Hlongwane (Manager: Nursing) gave an overview of the purpose of the Day, highlighting the importance of Patient Safety as a Priority. Mrs Carol Kopman (Telecom Operator Supervisor) and Miss Nosihle Zondi (Community Member) presented poems. Other items of entertainment also reflected the theme, including a Role Play and song, by student nurses from the DUT Campus. The CEO Miss NE Ndlovu gave a vote of thanks and appreciated the combined efforts of the staff, students, and community, which made the event the great success that it was.



THIS POEM WAS WRITTEN BY LINDA LEESON OF THE VERNON JUBILEE HOSPITAL IN CANADA SHE WROTE THIS POEM AFTER A TYPICAL BAD DAY

### I AM SORRY IN ADVANCE

I am sorry in advance  
Your bed is not made today  
But I have a patient, whose chest pain won't go away,

I am sorry in advance  
You not happy with your meal,  
Dietary does try hard sir to give it some appeal.

I am sorry in advance  
Your morning pills are late,  
I have a patient climbing out of bed that I must try to sedate.

I am sorry in advance  
Your mattress isn't soft  
We do need some new beds ma'am  
But those things cost a lot.

I am sorry in advance  
I didn't get to comb your mother's hair,  
I have a patient with emphysema  
She's scared she can't get air.

I am sorry in advance  
Your father is still in pain  
I am trying to reach his doctor  
I'll have to try again.

I am sorry in advance  
Your dressings aren't done yet  
But a patient has passed away  
I offered solace to her son

I am sorry in advance  
I am not cheery as a bird,  
I worked 12 hours my feet ache.  
I asked for help but no one heard.

I am sorry in advance  
I've only two hands and feet,  
I am trying to care for you the patient  
Your needs I want to meet.  
My 12 hours now are 16  
No replacement to be found  
My aching feet they cry out  
My head begins to pound.

I am sorry in advance  
I cannot meet your gaze  
My eyes are filled with tears,  
Your face is just a haze.  
If I could sit down for a minute  
And maybe grab a bite to eat,  
Phone my kids to say I love them  
And I'll be late again tonight.

I am sorry in advance  
I didn't do all that must be done  
If I worked any faster  
I'd soon begin to run  
When I do get to hold your hand  
Or wipe your furrowed brow,  
Please understand, Dear patient  
I care for you and how I see your pain  
I sense your fear, your anger in a glance  
Our health care is failing you

I am sorry in advance



Ms Carol Kopman rendering a poem



Miss Nosihle Zondi rendering a poem

World Patient Safety Day @ Umgeni—In Pictures



More preparations... (flower arrangements)



Events Committee members hard at work!



Marching for Patient Safety—together with the community



Miss Ndlovu (CEO) calling on all staff and community members to prioritise the safety of patients

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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