MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: All Media

ATT: News Editors, Health Reporters

For immediate release

Tuesday, 07 April 2020

GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STRENGTHENS MPILO APP CAPABILITY TO HELP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

In an effort to maximize the use of technology to fight Coronavirus, the Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) has added a COVID-19 feature to its patient engagement App called Mpilo. This will help health workers to trace people who have come into contact with someone who tested positive for the virus and also intensify health education and awareness.

The App has a helpful feature that allows users to do self-screening by completing as simple questionnaire. Depending on how one answers the App will alert the team of contact tracers to follow up with the user.

Mpilo is also linked to GDoH's digital platforms ensuring that users have access to credible and verified information on COVID-19

Among the many offerings of the Mpilo App is a geolocation feature that allows users to find health facilities closest to them. This has proven quite helpful especially during emergencies. Furthermore, Mpilo has an ambulance hailing facility allowing users to call an ambulance from the phone and track the ambulance's movement, whilst at the same time allowing our emergency medical services team to have access to the user's location.

It must be noted that the newly added feature on COVID-19 contact tracing is only activated on the app when you have been identified as a confirmed contact.

The Mpilo APP can be downloaded on Android and IOS enabled phones.

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