

MEDIA STATEMENT

Premier Makhura opens new 150-bed COVID-19 isolation ward at Bronkhorstspruit Hospital

06 May 2021

The Gauteng Provincial Government in partnership with BMW on Thursday, 06 May 2021 opened a new 150 COVID-19 bedded hospital in Riamar Park, Tshwane, in preparation of a possible surge in COVID-19 cases.

The 150 beds will add to the existing 60 beds, transforming the hospital into a 210 bedded facility.

The facility is an extension of the Bronkhorstspruit hospital, a feeder institution under the Mamelodi Regional, Tshwane District and Steve Biko Academic Hospitals cluster.

The state-run facility was made possible through a generous partnership with BMW SA and the German government, it will provide both quarantine and isolation services, thereby alleviating pressure on the neighbouring hospitals.

The hospital lies along the N4, R25 and R 685, which makes it a preferable destination for casualties involved in accidents from these roads, to receive emergency care in the hospital.

Through the partnership with BMW, the provincial government has upgraded more facilities in Tshwane; including the Soshanguve Block TT

Clinic, Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital, eight (8) secondary hospitals which include the Jubilee and Bronkhorstspruit Hospitals and four (4) Primary Health Care Clinics.

The facility will also support the healthcare needs of communities in Tshwane beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As the provincial government, we are not erecting field hospitals but building infrastructure that will continue to provide our communities with access to healthcare services beyond the COVID-19 pandemic," added Premier Makhura.

The Premier said while the province is addressing medium and long-term investment in the public healthcare infrastructure, there are concerns around a possible third wave.

"We are worried about an uptick of COVID-19 infections. We are monitoring hospital admissions, mortality, and the increase in mobility," added Premier Makhura.

The province has built enormous tracking capacity which includes monitoring of infections and mortality rates in response to the threat of another outbreak.

The Premier also conducted an oversight visit to Mamelodi Hospital where a new CT scan unit, revamped accident and emergency unit and a mental healthcare department were unveiled.

The hospital has also been upgraded increase capacity of the neonatal unit. The newly renovated unit has increased bed capacity with an intensive care unit that includes five ventilators, seven CPAP machines (non- invasive ventilators) and two body cooling machines. The added services also include Kangaroo Mother Care, Lodger Mother Facilities and Milk Kitchen. These new upgrades have reduced overcrowding, risk of infection outbreaks, and patient grievances, resulting in better patient care. -Ends-

Issued by the Gauteng Provincial Government

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