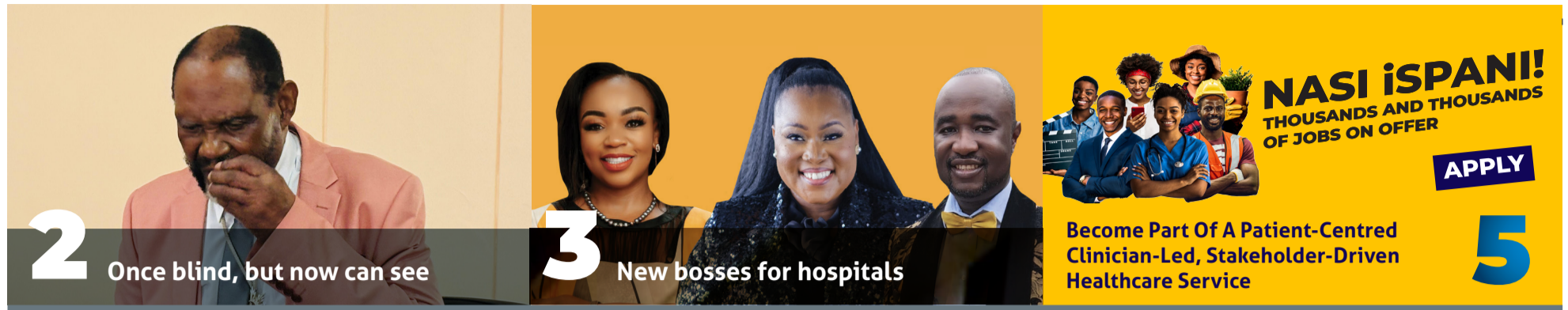


# NEWS BULLETIN

Official Newsletter of the Gauteng Department of Health

10 MARCH 2024



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## Futuristic, world-class NuMeRI centre sets Steve Biko Academic Hospital apart in Africa

The Nuclear Medicine Research Infrastructure (NuMeRI) centre housed at the Steve Biko Academic Hospital (SBAH) in Pretoria has propelled the healthcare facility into a league of its own in the area of nuclear medicine and research in Africa.

The half a billion-rand NuMeRI facility is part of the Department of Science and Technology's South African Research Infrastructure Roadmap (SARIR) and is a one-stop-shop medical nuclear imaging and theragnostic facility dedicated to drug development and clinical research for the benefit of the South African, African and global health care sector. In addition, local drug researchers, medical practitioners, and international collaborators will also benefit from NuMeRI.

The facility's main purpose is to facilitate research, innovation and value generation in areas of country and region-specific health challenges. Some of the functions that the NuMeRI centre will offer include clinical unit, radio pharmacy, basic and translational research, preclinical imaging, node of infection imaging and medical physics and radiobiology unit.

Professor Mike Sathekge said the futuristic infrastructure will help improve the quality of life and extend the lifespan and overall survival of cancer patients using radiopharmaceuticals. "We are currently in a position to do clinical trials that will help us develop and have access to new treatment for conditions that are difficult to treat."

Reflecting on the NuMeRI centre during her oversight visit on Thursday, 07 March 2024, Gauteng MEC for Health and Wellness, Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko said, the establishment of this facility marks a significant milestone in the field of nuclear medicine, pushing the boundaries of what was previously thought to be impossible. "Its presence not only enhances the medical capabilities within Gauteng province but also elevates the provincial status as a leader in healthcare innovation and excellence."

The MEC said that the department is very proud to have a state-of-art facility in one of the iconic hospitals such as SBAH. "This facility will improve clinical outcomes not



MEC Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko joined the Al-Tawheed Foundation this week to handover food parcels and wheelchairs to the community of Finetown. Through the partnership, 300 community members received their food parcels while four people will now have improved mobility after receiving wheelchairs.

[#AsibeHealthyGP](#)

only in South Africa but to the rest of the African continent. This happens at the time when the country is awaiting the President to sign in to law the National Health Insurance Bill paving the way of for the phased-in roll out of the National Health Insurance which will bring significant changes in terms of equity and access within the healthcare system," explained MEC Nkomo-Ralehoko.



# Regained eyesight leads to new found independence for 92-year-old man

Zoliswa Nzeku

Having lived for over 9 decades, Khukhuza Esau Mdhuli of Wattville near Benoni has overcome many adversities in his lifetime but it is his recent triumph that has rekindled hope and restored his independence.

The a 92-year-old elderly man, cannot not stop expressing his gratitude to the Ophthalmology team at Tambo Memorial Hospital for the work they did in helping to restore his gift of vision.

In a display of thankfulness for heartfelt compassion and medical excellence, Mdhuli recently paid a special visit to Tambo Memorial Hospital to personally thank Dr Agnes Risko Kenyeres, the esteemed Head of Ophthalmology at the facility for the profound impact of her work.

Mdhuli had embarked on a journey from darkness back into the light, overcoming blindness under Dr Kenyeres and her team's expert care. The elderly man thanked the team for their timeous interventions that enabled him to have his eyesight restored thus improving his well-being.

From their first meeting, Dr. Kenyeres recognised the urgency of Mdhuli's situation and immediately scheduled him for cataract surgery. His right eye was operated in July 2023 as part of the Gauteng Department of Health's surgical marathon campaign. This marked beginning of his remarkable recovery. A similar procedure on his left eye completed the transformation fully restoring his sight.



*"When the cotton wool was removed from my eye, I could see again. It was an amazing moment after years of darkness. Being able to regain my independence, such as cooking for myself, signifies not only the restoration of my vision but also the restoration of my dignity. Dr. Kenyeres' dedication and expertise have transformed my life for the better."*

"When the cotton wool was removed from my eye, I could see again. It was an amazing moment after years of darkness. Being able to regain my independence, such as cooking for myself, signifies not only the restoration of my vision but also the restoration of my dignity. Dr. Kenyeres' dedication and expertise have transformed my life for the better," said Mdhuli.

Dr Kenyeres, who received the Lifetime Humanitarian Award from the Ophthalmological Society of South Africa (OSSA) in 2023 at their 55th annual national congress in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, has shown unwavering commitment to advancing eye health and enhancing the well-being of her patients in the Ekurhuleni community. Aiming to perform up to 75 cataract operations a month, she is making a significant difference in the lives of many.

In response to the gratitude expressed by her patients, Dr Kenyeres remained humble. "I am overwhelmed but I know I couldn't have done this without my team and the unwavering support of the hospital management. Seeing our patients regain their ability to live fully through the restoration of their sight is rewarding," she commented.

Another patient who further testified of the impact the work of Dr Kenyeres and her team on him is Kenneth Musi. He praised Dr Kenyeres for her swift action in treating his impaired vision and preventing further deterioration by referring him to another specialist in Benoni. "The doctor and her team prioritised my case, providing the essential interventions that ultimately restored my vision," he said.

# Gauteng Health ensures free access to condoms for the public

The Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) wishes to assure the public that free male and female condoms continue to be readily available at various locations including universities, clinics, taverns, hostels, hospitals, motels, brothels, workplaces, primary distribution sites, and key population hot spots areas. These facilities receive regular condom supplies based on their storage capacity, with deliveries occurring daily, weekly, or monthly.

Ms Maeshela Maheya from the HIV/AIDS, STI, and TB (HAST) unit at the GDoH pointed that the department aims to promote sexual health equity and eliminate barriers to condom use by making condoms accessible through health clinics, community centers, educational institutions, and outreach programs.

Non-Profit Organisations also play a vital role in the distribution of condoms to the community and have since prioritised key population hotspots to ensure that sex workers, people injecting drugs, and men having sex with men have access to



condoms. Additionally, ward-based primary health outreach teams distribute condoms during their door-to-door visits on a daily basis.

"The active distribution of condoms is a critical component of public health strategies. It promotes sexual health, prevents STIs and unintended pregnancies, and empowers individuals to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive well-being," said Maheya.

During the State of the Province Address (SOPA) debate, Health and Wellness MEC Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko highlighted the GDoH's efforts to educate students on critical topics such as teenage pregnancy, family planning methods, suicide prevention, sexual behavior, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). This helps equip the youth with the knowledge to make informed decisions about their sexual health.

In response to the recent increase in STI infections in the province, the GDoH has intensified efforts to emphasise the importance of condom use through public awareness campaigns. The public health team continues to conduct media interviews, share educational graphics on social media platforms, and organise educational programs at schools and community centers. These initiatives target both young people and adults, highlighting the significance of safe sex practices.

Through the Township, Informal Settlements and Hostel (TISH) outreach program, the department has increased the availability condoms to ensure that communities can access free males and females condoms in their neighborhood. Facilities or institutions who would like to receive the supply of free condoms for distributions, can contact Maeshela Maheya on 0833776186 or Sboniso Bhanyana on 0676903292.



# Gauteng academic hospitals get new CEOs



Left to Right: Dr Lehlohonolo Majake (SBAH), Dr Nthabiseng Makgana (CHBAH), and Dr Fhatuwani Mbara (DGMAH)

Newly appointed chief executive officers (CEOs) for academic hospitals, namely Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital (DGMAH), Steve Biko Academic Hospital (SBAH), and Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital (CHBAH) will have to hit the ground running.

This was the sentiment of MEC for Health and Wellness, Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko when congratulating the new CEOs on their appointments emphasising the importance of their role in driving the mandate to provide quality healthcare services.

The CEOs assumed their roles on the 1st of March 2024, marking a significant step towards strengthening the Department's governance system and ensuring that there is capable leadership across healthcare facilities in the province.

"I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to Dr Nthabiseng Makgana (CHBAH), Dr Lehlohonolo Majake (SBAH) and Dr Fhatuwani Mbara (DGMAH) for their appointments to serve in our academic hospitals. These positions carry a great responsibility in ensuring the delivery of

excellent healthcare services to the people of Gauteng. I have no doubt that the three colleagues will immediately fold their sleeves and get to work as there is much to do," stated MEC Nkomo-Ralehoko.

Academic hospitals hold a vital place in the public healthcare landscape, serving as centres of excellence in medical education, research, and patient care. These institutions render highly specialised services and play a crucial role in training the next generation of healthcare professionals, providing them with hands-on experience and guidance from experienced physicians and healthcare experts.

The appointment of these CEOs comes at a crucial time as GDoH prepares for the implementation of the National Health Insurance (NHI). MEC Nkomo-Ralehoko further highlighted the significance of capable leaders in achieving the goals set by the NHI.

"As we ready ourselves for the implementation of the NHI, it is imperative that we have capable leaders at the helm of our academic hospitals. Their expertise and strategic vision will play a vital role in advancing our healthcare system, promoting equity, and improving access to quality healthcare services for all," added MEC Nkomo-Ralehoko.

In addition to the appointment of the CEOs, the GDoH has also appointed the Deputy Director General and Chief Director of Infrastructure, the Chief Information Officer, Chief Director for Health Economics and Finance and several other senior management services employees at a director level. These key positions will contribute to accelerating the delivery of services to communities and to strengthening the healthcare system in Gauteng.



## A fitter, healthier and happier Gauteng

Transform your life, one healthy choice at a time.  
Take the first step towards a vibrant future.  
Embrace clean eating, active living, and self-care.

Let's break free from old habits and build a foundation of wellness that radiates from within.



## Mental health review boards hold first quarterly meeting since appointed

Thulasizwe Lembede

Newly appointed district-based Mental Health Review Boards (MHRB) held their first quarterly review meeting on Thursday, 07 March since assuming office in December 2023 to serve for the next three years.

During the meeting with the MEC for Health and Wellness, Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko, held at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, the MHRB tabled quarterly reports (December 2023 to February 2024) from all five districts. The reports highlighted similar challenges faced by healthcare facilities in the province such as the need for dedicated vehicles for mental health

teams in each region for smooth facilitation of oversight visits to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in different areas.

The importance of strengthening collaboration with NGOs in the province was also emphasised to enhance mental health services and overcome existing challenges.

The GDoH recognises the essential role played by NGOs in providing comprehensive mental health services and support to individuals in need. Collaborative efforts are vital in addressing the growing demand for mental health care services and overcoming the current challenges.

In her remarks, MEC Nkomo-Ralehoko acknowledged the capacity-related issues faced by hospitals and made a commitment to ensure the expansion of wards for mental health patients across health facilities in the province.

Furthermore, the Department has been implementing various interventions to strengthen mental health care services, including increasing resources, such as mental health specialised professionals and rehabilitation services. Additionally, efforts have been made to refurbish and expand facilities to accommodate more acute mental health beds. By the end of the 2023/24 financial year, an additional 206 acute mental health beds will be added, at facilities such as Bertha Gxowa, South Rand, Tshwane District, Tembisa and Dr George Mukhari Academic, contributing to the current count of over 2,000 beds available in the province.

The Mental Health Review Boards are made up of 27 individuals with diverse expertise which include legal practitioners (attorneys and advocates), mental health care practitioners (doctors, psychiatric nurses, psychologists and social workers) and community members with a proven record of community development and involvement were appointed to serve in the province's five district-based for the next three years (01 December 2023 to 30 November 2026).





**WORLD  
TB DAY**



**24 MARCH 2024**

**WORLD  
TB DAY**



*Yes! you & I Can  
End TB*



**#WorldTBDAY2024 | #EndTB**

**YOUR  
FEEDBACK**

**MATTERS  
TO US!**

Just thought I'd drop a small compliment for Westbury clinic for a change.

Although Thursday and Friday, I was frustrated, it was out of their hands because of loadshedding.


Yesterday, I was at the clinic at 7:30am and I got good assistance from sister Noxolo Mbengu and her team. Please let them know, thank you.

From Ms Snowy Mattera


**QUALITY  
ASSURANCE  
CONTACT US!**



For any hospital or clinic complaints please contact the Gauteng Department of Health on the 24-hour customer line on.

 **0800 203 886 (Toll free number)**

 **patients.health@gauteng.gov.za or support@gauteng.gov.za**

 **SMS : 35023**

\* Letter grammatically edited

For letters, contribution and suggestion contact [GDoHstories@gauteng.gov.za](mailto:GDoHstories@gauteng.gov.za)

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   **@gautenghealth**

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# NASI iSPANI!

## THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF JOBS ON OFFER

BECOME PART OF A PATIENT-CENTRED CLINICIAN-LED, STAKEHOLDER-DRIVEN HEALTHCARE SERVICE

**APPLY**

## GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH VACANCIES

Forensic Pathology Officer 12 Months Contract (Level 5) - Pretoria Cluster
Forensic Pathology Officer 12 Months Contract (Level 5) - Germiston Cluster
Forensic Pathology Officer 12 Months Contract (Level 5) - Johannesburg Cluster
Medical Registrar In Psychiatry - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Orthotist And Prosthetist - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Clinical Technologist In Neurophysiologist - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Officer Anaesthesia - Helen Joseph Hospital
Medical Registrar - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Officer - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Officer - Sebokeng Fps
Dietician Production - Edenvale Regional Hospital
Infection Prevention & Control Coordinator (Pn - A5) - Edenvale Regional Hospital
Operational Manager Nursing (Pn-5) - Edenvale Regional Hospital
Physiotherapy Assistant Director - Edenvale Regional Hospital
Operational Manager: Speciality - Pn-B3 (Emergency Department) - Edenvale Regional Hospital
Assistant Nursing Manager (Area) (Pn-A7) (Internal Medicine) - Edenvale Regional Hospital
Food Service Aid - Far East Rand Hospital
Asset Officer - Far East Rand Hospital
Porter - Far East Rand Hospital
Chief Porter - Far East Rand Hospital
Property Caretaker - Far East Rand Hospital
Administration Clerk - Far East Rand Hospital
Periodic Medical Specialist: Obstetrics And Gynaecology - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Officer Grade 1 (Orthopaedics) - Rahima Moosa Mother And Child Hospital
Cleaner - Far East Rand Hospital
Medical Registrar: Obstetrics And Gynaecology - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Assistant Manager Area: Speciality/ General Ophthalmology - Steve Biko Academic Hospital
Medical Specialist Psychiatrist Grade 1/2/3 (Academic Level Lecturer/ Senior Lecturer) - Weskoppies Hospital

Professional Nurse Specialty: Orthopaedic - Sebokeng Hospital
Operational Manager Nursing: Specialty (Pnb-3) - Weskoppies Hospital
Sessional Professional Nurses General - Sebokeng Hospital
Food Service Aid - Weskoppies Hospital
Environmental Health Practitioner Sessional - Sebokeng Hospital
Medical Officer Sessional (OPD) - Sebokeng Hospital
Dietitian - West Rand District Health Services
Physiotherapist Production - Kalafong Provincial Tertiary Hospital
Chief Physiotherapist - Kalafong Provincial Tertiary Hospital
Electroencephalogram (EEG) Technician - Kalafong Provincial Tertiary Hospital
Assistant Speech Therapist And Audiologist - Kalafong Provincial Tertiary Hospital
Professional Nurse - Weskoppies Hospital
Professional Nurse Specialty Stream: (Psychiatry) - Weskoppies Hospital
Staff Nurse - Weskoppies Hospital
Nursing Assistant - Weskoppies Hospital
Human Resource Clerk - GCON - Ann Latsky Campus
Librarian - GCON - Ann Latsky Campus
Property Caretaker Supervisor - Weskoppies Hospital
Driver - Steve Biko Academic Hospital
Administration Officer - Roodepoort FPS
Operational Manager Nursing (General) - Pretoria West District Hospital
Assistant Director (Supply Chain Management) Re-Advertisement: Applicants Who Previously Applied Are Encouraged To Re-Apply - Dr Yusuf Dadoo Hospital
Clinical Programme Coordinator: Grade 1-2 (Mental Health) - West Rand District Health Services (Mogale Sub-District X1) (Merafong Sub-District X1) & (Randwest Sub-District X1)
Professional Nurse General: Grade 1-3 (Mental Health) - West Rand District Health Services (Mogale Sub-District X1) (Merafong Sub-District X3) & (Randwest Sub-District X1)
Professional Nurse Specialty: Primary Health Care - West Rand District Health Services (Randfontein Sub-District)
Assistant Director (Facility Manager) - Ga-Rankuwa FPS
Chief Physiotherapist - Johannesburg Health District
Chief Podiatrist - Johannesburg Health District
Operational Manager: Speciality Psychiatry (Pn-B3) - Steve Biko Academic Hospital
Medical Registrar In Psychiatry - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital

### DON'T BE A VICTIM OF BURSARY SCAMS AND FAKE JOBS ADVERTS!

Individuals looking at applying for government jobs, bursaries and learning opportunities should consider tips below:

- Search for opportunities on verified government platforms including social media platforms, websites and adverts through reliable newspapers, e.g. the Gauteng e-Recruitment System (Professional Job Centre), Department of Public Service Administration (DPSA) vacancy circular.
- Always follow instructions carefully and fill in Z83 with precision.
- Students who want to study towards a Higher Certificate in Emergency Medical Care (one year) or Diploma in Emergency Medical Care (two years) at Legbone College of Emergency Care. For more info visit: <https://lcoec.ac.za>
- Study towards a Diploma in nursing in various specialties including critical care nursing, trauma and emergency nursing, amongst others at the Gauteng College of Nursing. For more info, please call: 011 644 8946



NOTE: Applications should be submitted strictly online at the following E-Recruitment portal:

<https://jobs.gauteng.gov.za/>  
No hand delivered, faxed or e-mailed applications will be accepted. NB: For assistance with online applications please e-mail your query to [e-recruitment@gauteng.gov.za](mailto:e-recruitment@gauteng.gov.za).