

# **MEDIA** STATEMENT

### FRIDAY, 02 FEBRUARY 2024

# GAUTENG HEALTH DISMISSES MISLEADING CLAIMS ON DELAYS IN AWARDING OF CANCER TREATMENT TENDER

The Gauteng Health Department (GDoH) has noted the recent media reports which seeks to suggest that there are deliberate delays regarding the finalisation of a tender for the outsourcing of oncology radiation services for breast and prostate cancer patients.

Contrary to the claims made, the department has made progress in addressing the backlog in surgical and radiation oncology services since the allocation of R784 million in May 2023, to address the issue. R534 millions of this amount has been invested within this financial year on oncology medical and allied equipment such as cutting-edge linear accelerator machines and the building of bunkers for some of the machines.

In addition, R250 million has been allocated for the outsourcing of the radiation oncology tender which is at an advanced stage of finalisation. The tender was advertised on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 and closed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 2023. The Department commenced with the evaluation of the tender on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November 2023 and concluded on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2024. Currently, the department is awaiting the probity auditor's review on the integrity of the tender process.

While the department understands the urgency and importance of finalising the procurement process to ensure that patients receive the necessary care, it is imperative to note that government supply chain processes must be followed as outlined in the PFMA. The GDoH can attest that the evaluation process has been thorough and meticulous to ensure that the best possible service provider is selected.

The GDoH dismisses any false and misleading claims reported on the alleged delays and assures the public that provision of high-quality healthcare services for all patients in Gauteng remains our utmost priority.

#### Ends/

## **Issued by Gauteng Department of Health**

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