

# NEWS BULLETIN

Official Newsletter of the Gauteng Department of Health

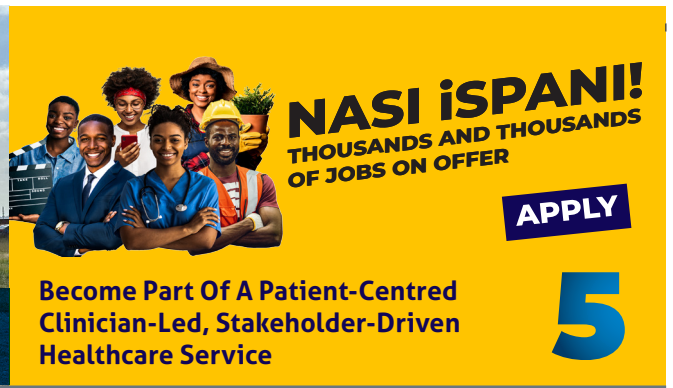
30 MARCH 2024



**2** Getting your travel vaccines easy.



**3** Pholosong Hospital gets additional water reservoir



**5** Become Part Of A Patient-Centred Clinician-Led, Stakeholder-Driven Healthcare Service



*Let us play our part in support of our healthcare professionals who have sacrificed their time to serve us during this busy time of the year. Each one of us bears the responsibility to minimise preventable injuries, road accidents and fatalities.*  
~ MEC Nkomo-Ralehoko.

## Behaviour change – key to ending road accidents and fatalities

The Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) has put in place contingency measures to ensure the continuous delivery of healthcare services during the Easter holidays.

Travellers are urged to remain vigilant on the roads, refrain from driving under the influence of alcohol as this reckless behaviour poses a threat to personal safety, and the well-being of fellow road users and further strains the already burdened public healthcare system.

Due to the anticipated increased travel particularly on roads connecting to other provinces and countries, there is a high risk of accidents and trauma related cases as well as the transmission of infectious diseases such as Malaria.

MEC for Health and Wellness, Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko has emphasised the importance of abiding by the law to reduce the risk of trauma and emergency-related cases.

“Let us play our part in support of our healthcare professionals who have sacrificed their time to serve us during this busy time of the year. Each one of us bears the responsibility to minimise preventable injuries, road accidents and fatalities,” said MEC Nkomo-Ralehoko.

To meet the anticipated demand for healthcare services, the GDoH has implemented contingency plans to ensure adequate staffing levels at public healthcare facilities, along with the allocation of necessary resources and equipment required to provide quality services to the public.

All public hospitals and 38 Community Health Centres (CHCs) offering 24-hour services will

remain open to provide medical care to those in need. Additionally, the GDoH has fully resourced the medical supply depot to ensure the availability of medicines and consumables during this period. All four major laundry centres servicing public hospitals across the province will also operate to supply clean linens for in-hospital patients.

In addition, the Gauteng Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is on high alert level to promptly respond to emergencies. A fleet of 1358 emergency vehicles, including specialised units such as Armed Violent Incident ambulances, Intensive Care Units (ICU) ambulances, Planned Patient Transport, Special Rescue vehicles, and Primary Response vehicles has been deployed across all five health districts in the province.

The equipment standards have been enhanced with additional neonate and paediatric ventilators to transport low birth weight neonates (babies). EMS personnel have also been strategically deployed to support law enforcement operations in hotspot areas and ensure the safety of residents on the roads and at crowd pulling festivals like the Rand Show.

The EMS Communication Centre has been adequately staffed to handle all incoming calls for emergency. During the December 2023 holidays, 1914 emergency calls were received for accidents, medical emergencies, and trauma cases amongst others.

Throughout the Easter holidays, all 11 Forensic Pathology Service (FPS) centres will remain operational. A total of 72 operational response vehicles, including two disaster response



MEC for Health and Wellness, Nomantu Nkomo-Ralehoko supported the relaunch of Far East Rand Hospital's I Serve with a Smile campaign.

The campaign is part of the Gauteng Department of Health's efforts to address staff attitude and bolster morale among healthcare workers to improve patient experience and reduce levels of dissatisfaction and complaints.

It seeks to encourage every healthcare worker to approach their work with a smile, enthusiasm, empathy and a friendly demeanor.

The heart of the health profession lies in serving and caring for our patients.

[#AsibeHealthyGP](#)

trucks, have been deployed to provide forensic medical examinations and support victims of crime, including assistance to the police in dealing with drunken-driving incidents.

In light of the active Cholera outbreak in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries including Congo, Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, the GDoH wishes to urge travellers to these countries to be cautious and practice good hand hygiene and avoid using contaminated water or water from unknown sources.



# Getting your travel vaccines has never been easier!

Are you traveling during this holiday season? Visit one of the Gauteng Department of Health's (GDoH) Travel Clinics to get access to convenient, flexible travel health solutions to keep you safe whilst abroad.

There are five travel clinic clinics across the province of which four are for the public and they include the Bertha Gxowa Hospital, Laudium Community Health Centre, Yusuf Dadoo Hospital, and GDoH Head office at Commissioner Street in Johannesburg.

Those in need of the vaccines as per the requirement of the countries they are visiting can expect to spend an affordable minimum amount of R19.00 to a maximum of R485.60 including the R218.00 consultation fee.

Travellers can get an array of vaccines including Yellow Fever, Menactra, Verorab for rabies, Diftavex for Tetanus and Diphtheria, Heberbiovac for Hepatitis and Typhim for typhoid fever, Doxyclyne, Malateq and chemoprophylaxis for Malaria, Adacel Quatra for Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and Pertussis vaccines. The administration of the vaccines will be administered as per the requirements of the country they are visiting.

It is important that those travelling visit their nearest travel clinic before going to their destination. This is to help them stay safe and protected from diseases found in other parts of the world.

In Gauteng, a large proportion of travellers present with Malaria after visiting endemic areas in and out of the country. These areas include Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces



*When travelling to a malaria endemic area, it is important for people to practice protective measures. People travelling to endemic areas should regularly use of mosquito repellents, wear long trousers and long sleeve shirts, be indoors between dusk and dawn, sleep in air-conditioned rooms or in a room with a fan and sleeping in insecticide treated nettings."*

and South African Development Community (SADC) countries such as Mozambique, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Angola.

From January to December 2023, a total of 1 339 Malaria cases which resulted in 15 deaths were reported in the province. Almost 90% of these cases were imported from the SADC countries.

Tebogo Matjokotja, Deputy Director for Communicable Diseases Control said that it was important that travellers report any symptoms of malaria within 21 days of coming back from their trips for malaria rapid test and early treatment.

"When travelling to a malaria endemic area, it is important for people to practice protective measures. People travelling to endemic areas should regularly use of mosquito repellents, wear long trousers and long sleeve shirts, be indoors between dusk and dawn, sleep in air-conditioned rooms or in a room with a fan and sleeping in insecticide treated nettings.

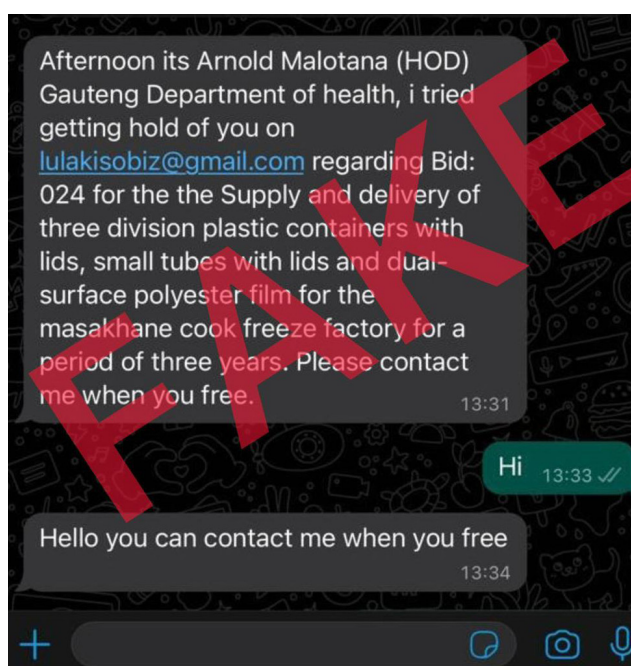
"Malaria symptoms include fever, headache, general body aches and pains, general body weakness, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, diarrhea and the flu. It is important that people who notice any of these symptoms after visiting a malaria prevalent area visit their nearest clinic or doctor to get tested and treated for malaria, as delay in treatment can lead to death," said Matjokotja.

# Beware of tender scams!

It is important for the public to remain vigilant and not fall for tender scams as these are meant to defraud participants of their money.

This warning comes after the Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) noted the latest scam on WhatsApp where an individual pretending to be the GDoH's Head of Department is asking recipients of a tender-related message to make contact regarding the so-called opportunity.

The public should note that Heads of Departments are not involved in tender administration or directly contacting bidders. GDoH officials are not allowed to



contact any person or company outside the tender processes, especially on WhatsApp or using private domains instead of Gauteng Provincial Government's official domain (Name.Surname@gauteng.gov.za).

The modus operandi of these kind of schemes is that they thrive on giving false hope and on the promise of easy money. Usually, the scammers are counting on the public especially emerging businesses not being able to pick up simple red flags

*"The public should note that Heads of Departments are not involved in tender administration or directly contacting bidders. GDoH officials are not allowed to contact any person or company outside the tender processes."*

such as, a wrong date, the usage of wrong government logos, false contact details, links to fake websites etc.

Should any individual or company receive any Email, SMS or WhatsApp message pertaining to GDoH related tenders outside the tender process they are advised to make an enquiry with on HealthSCMqueries@gauteng.gov.za.





## Pholosong Hospital finally gets additional water reservoir

Fikile Oyekanmi

The commissioning of a new 407 000 litre reservoir at Pholosong Regional Hospital will go a long way in ensuring the facility continues providing uninterrupted services even during water supply interruptions.

The impact of the frequent water outages and intermittent low water pressures in the community of Tsakane, Ekurhuleni has been an ongoing challenge and the hospital being part of the community has not been spared.

Pholosong hospital has experienced multiple water outages since 2022. This affected the facility's ability to provide certain health services, often necessitating diversion and the cancellation of elective procedures and disruption of other essential hospital services.

The step taken by the hospital's management to construct an additional reservoir has ensured sustained water availability for the provision of essential services by the hospital.

"In the month of March for example, there were two reported water interruptions in the area. Our

*The new reservoir allows for a maximum six days' additional water supply as a contingency when the water situation is dire. Pholosong Regional Hospital has two reservoirs of 100 000 and 60 000 litres and with the new reservoir this brings the overall capacity to over 560 000 litres."*

hospital taps never ran dry since we now have this additional capacity. All water dependant essential services including cooking for patients, sterilisation of theatre equipment, fully functional ablutions and general infection control practises remained uninterrupted," said Acting CEO, Dr Hlomile Mlahleki.

The new reservoir allows for a maximum six days' additional water supply as a contingency when the water situation is dire. Pholosong Regional Hospital has two reservoirs of 100 000 and 60 000 litres and with the new reservoir this brings the overall capacity to over 560 000 litres.



**DONATE  
BLOOD  
AND HELP  
SAVE LIVES**

**Consider making blood donation a regular undertaking to ensure a sustained blood availability for patients in need of blood transfusion.**

For more information on how to donate blood, please visit the SANBS website: <https://sanbs.org.za> or call the toll-free number: 0800 119 031.

## Life flows through the veins of silent heroes

Thuso Montwedi

The Easter weekend is upon us and it affords many a time to celebrate, worship and go on vacations. During this time, it is easy to overlook the silent heroes who stand at the forefront of compassion and lifesaving acts.

Among them is Elelwani Mogale, an example of hope and dedication for the community of Montana in Pretoria. As a regular blood donor at Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital, Elelwani's commitment to blood donation shines brightly, especially during critical periods like Easter weekend.

Elelwani's journey into blood donation is fueled by a deep understanding of its impact. "I know the importance of my blood type, I am +0 blood group," she shares. "One unit of blood can save up to three patients, and I will be able to enjoy my Easter holidays knowing that I have saved lives."

Her awareness of the life-saving potential within her own veins sets her apart as a true champion of humanity.

The Easter weekend, with its increased travel and increased risks of accidents, highlights the



urgent need for blood donations. She recognises this reality, stating, "I know that people will be traveling, and at this time, we experience a lot of accidents that need more blood to save people's lives." Her foresight and proactive approach ensure that the hospitals are equipped to handle the influx of patients, thanks to the generosity of donors like Mogale.

Beyond the holiday rush, Mogale understands the daily demand for blood in various hospital wards. "Most wards request blood every day, especially in the maternity corridor and patients diagnosed with anemia," she explains. Her firsthand experience as a healthcare worker gives her a unique perspective on the vital role blood donation plays in sustaining life, not just during emergencies, but in routine medical care as well.

Her passion for blood donation extends beyond her own contributions; she actively encourages her community to join her in this noble cause. "I would like to encourage community members to test their blood group and start saving people's lives," she urges. "It's worth it, and it's not painful. Everyone must come." Her words resonate with a sense of urgency and purpose, inspiring others to embrace the opportunity to make a difference.

To further drive participation, she emphasises the importance of education and awareness. "We can encourage people by giving them more information and again to explain the importance of donating blood," she suggests. Through education and advocacy, she seeks to empower others to recognise the power they hold to save lives through a simple act of kindness.

This period of the year has a potential of elevated number of trauma cases, which might require blood transfusion," emphasises Benjamin Mthapi, the Laboratory and Blood Services Coordinator at Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital. "Therefore, it's important for people to donate blood regularly, as prescribed by South African National Blood Service (SANBS). This will assist in ensuring a safe and sufficient blood supply," he emphasises, highlighting the critical role that regular blood donation plays in meeting the demands of trauma cases during this time of heightened risk.

For more information on how to donate blood, please visit the SANBS website: <https://sanbs.org.za> or call the toll-free number: 0800 119 031.



# GAUTENG HEALTH TAKES HEALTH SERVICES TO RAND SHOW!



Patriots attending the Rand Easter Show this long weekend from 28 March to 01 April 2024 are invited to visit the Gauteng Department of Health's pavilion at Hall 5 to consult and access comprehensive health services.

Get exposed to Gauteng EMS and Forensic Medical Services state-of-the-art medical equipment and vehicles, and an exhibition of career and training programmes within the Department.

## HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE INCLUDE:

Comprehensive health screening | HIV and TB Testing Services | EPI (Child Immunisation) Vitamin A and Deworming, Family planning | Adherence Support (for chronic treatment) | Oral health | Pap smear and PSA

*Join the Movement, #AsibeHealthyGP*



**YOUR  
FEEDBACK**

**MATTERS  
TO US!**

### Happy patient applauds transformed Mamelodi Hospital

To the CEO of Mamelodi Regional Hospital,

I am writing this letter with many thanks and gratitude for what you have done for this hospital. My stay at your facility felt like I was in a private hospital. Well, that is what I call it now, Mamelodi Private Hospital.

The food and cleanliness at the hospital has been impeccable. The way all the staff assist patients is above and beyond remarkable, and I would like to thank them from the bottom of my heart.

I would like to thank all the doctors for their amazing work and dedication. To all the sisters, nurses, cleaners and security (all hospital staff) a very BIG THANK YOU for all the work, friendliness, love and care... IT FELT LIKE HOME!

Thank you to the garden staff for the wonderful upkeep of the outside area, it is cleanliness personified.

My most heartfelt THANK YOU to Orthopaedic department and their leader Dr. Nhlapo, God has blessed you with the ability of putting broken bones back together and making a person whole again, and for me the care I received during and after my operation. The entire team is a blessing and may God's hand always guide you and your team with future procedures.

Many Thanks,  
Mrs Gladys Johnson

\* Letter grammatically edited


**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](mailto:patients.health@gauteng.gov.za) or  
[support@gauteng.gov.za](mailto:support@gauteng.gov.za)

 SMS : 35023

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

For more information on Gauteng Department of Health programmes, News and other information, visit our social media pages:

 Gauteng Health Department

   @gautenghealth

 Gauteng Department of Health





# 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

Lecturer - Gauteng College Of Nursing (GCON): Sg Lourens Campus
HoD Primary Care Nursing - Gauteng College Of Nursing (GCON): Sg Lourens Campus
HoD Student Affairs - Gauteng College Of Nursing (GCON): Sg Lourens Campus
HoD Student Counselling And Development - Gauteng College Of Nursing (GCON): SG Lourens Campus
Clinical Manager Surgery (Re-Advertisement) - Sebokeng Hospital
Medical Officer [Urology] - Steve Biko Academic Hospital
Specialist Cardiologist - Helen Joseph Hospital
Diagnostic Radiographer - Steve Biko Academic Hospital
Medical Officer (12 Months Contract) - Johannesburg Health District
Registrar [Medical] - Steve Biko Academic Hospital
Laundry Supervisor - Masakhane Provincial Laundry And Cook Freeze Factory
Food Technologist - Masakhane Provincial Laundry And Cook Freeze Factory
Laundry Worker - Masakhane Provincial Laundry And Cook Freeze Factory
Assistant Manager Nursing (PHC Speciality) (Re-Advertisement) - Johannesburg Health District (Discoverers ChC And Alexandra ChC)
Diagnostic Radiographer - Steve Biko Academic Hospital
Medical Specialist (Obstetrics And Gynaecology) Readvertisement - Rahima Moosa Mother And Child Hospital
Medical Registrar - Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital, Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital And Tambo Memorial Hospital
Session Medical Officer - Kalafong Provincial Tertiary Hospital
Professional Nurse Speciality OHS - Rahima Moosa Mother And Child Hospital
Assistant Manager Nursing PNA7 (Night Supervisor) - Rahima Moosa Mother And Child Hospital
Staff Nurse - Kopanong Hospital
Occupational Therapist Production Level - Kopanong Hospital

Diagnostic Radiographer - Kopanong Hospital
Professional Nurse Specialty Grade 1-Pnb1 - Grade 2- Pnb2 (Advanced Midwifery) - Kopanong Hospital
Medical Specialist Fellow In Nephrology Fixed Two Years Contract - Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital
Clinical Associate - Pretoria West District Hospital
Medical Officer - Pretoria West District Hospital
Medical Officer (Accident & Emergency) - Tambo Memorial Hospital
Medical Officer Grade 1 (Orthopaedic Surgery) - Tambo Memorial Hospital
Queue Marshal - Helen Joseph Hospital
Cleaning - Helen Joseph Hospital
Diagnostic Radiographer - Sebokeng Hospital
Driver - Far East Rand Hospital
Social Work Manager - Sebokeng Hospital
Administration Clerk - Johannesburg Fps
Staff Nurse - Johannesburg Health District (Abcef Sub-District)
Medical Officer Grade - Johannesburg Health District (Abcef Sub-District)
Medical Officer (General Surgery) - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Registrar (Paediatric Surgery) - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Officer (Anaesthesiology) - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Supply Chain Officer - Gauteng College Of Nursing (GCON): Sg Lourens Campus
Medical Registrar: Anaesthesiology - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Paramedic - Lebone College Of Emergency Care
Medical Officer - Rahima Moosa Mother And Child Hospital, Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital (Chbah) And Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital
Chief Dietitian - Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital
Medical Specialist: Paediatric Surgery - 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).