

## MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: All Media

ATT: News Editors, Health Reporters

For immediate release

Monday, 27 January 2020

## GAUTENG HEALTH MEC DR BANDILE MASUKU COMMENDS PROVINCIAL ORGAN TRANSPLANT TEAM FOR SUCCESSFULLY PERFORMING TWO BACK TO BACK KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS.

Gauteng Health MEC Dr Bandile Masuku would like to express his gratitude to the Provincial Organ Transplant Project Team led by Prof Thifheli Luvhengo, Anja Meyer and Prof Graham Paget for changing the lives of the two patients. "You have shown that working collectively as a team and putting resources together will yield positive results which will take Gauteng Department of Health to greater heights, " said MEC Masuku.

The Provincial Organ Transplant Project Team which was recently formulated made history, for the first time working together have successfully performed back to back kidney transplants to two patients at Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital on the 24 January 2020. The joint team will improve Gauteng's capacity to perform more transplant procedures, share much needed skills and expertise that will allow us to produce more transplant surgeons. The Provincial Organ Transplant Project Team consists of specialists who are Heads of Surgery and Nephrology from Steve Biko, Dr George Mukhari and Charlotte Maxeke Academic Hospitals.

The lives of the two patients will never be the same after they were successfully performed organ transplant operations. This is a life changing experience to these patients who depended on a three days weekly dialysis programme.

## Ends/

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