

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: All Media

ATT: News Editors, Health Reporters

For immediate release

Saturday, 04 April 2020

GAUTENG HEALTH CALLS FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND VENTILATORS DONATIONS FOR SPECIAL SITES

The Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) calls for donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and ventilators. The fight against Covid-19 requires for a joint effort by all sectors of society. This includes the increasing of the resource capacity of the Gauteng health system across the board with regards to its COVID-19 response.

It is against this backdrop that we call on those who wish to contribute to the fight against COVID-19, to donate PPE and ventilators. These donations will supplement government resources and will be utilised in special sites which are being put in place to house COVID-19 patients. The PPEs such as masks and gloves play an important role in minimizing exposure to the spread of infections whilst ventilators assist the breathing process when the virus has caused failure or damage to the lungs.

According to WHO COVID-19 causes damage to the lungs and as result one in six people becomes seriously ill and can develop breathing difficulties. To alleviate this, a ventilator is used to push air, with increased levels of oxygen into the lungs.

The Department needs two types of ventilators namely, mechanical ventilation and non-invasive ventilation. We are calling on organisations, corporates, NGOs, and individuals, to support us in the fight against this pandemic.

We continue to be grateful to many citizens who have risen to the occasion to lend a hand in the work to stop the further transmission of the Coronavirus in Gauteng.

To donate please send us an email; covid19.donations@gauteng.gov.za or Call: 072 633 0515.

Ends/

For more information contact

Kwara Kekana, Spokesperson: MEC for Health

074 054 3826 or Kwara.Kekana@gauteng.gov.za

OR

Philani Mhlungu, Media Liaison Officer: MEC for Health

060 961 2627 or Philani.Mhlungu@gauteng.gov.za

For media releases, speeches and news visit the Gauteng Department of Health's portal at www.gauteng.gov.za