



**GAUTENG PROVINCE**

HEALTH  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**TUESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2020**

### **GAUTENG HEALTH CLOSES THREE QUARANTINE/ISOLATION SITES WITH NASREC FIELD HOSPITAL TO REMAIN OPEN UNTIL JANUARY 2021**

The Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) will not close down the NASREC field hospital until January next year. This is due to the fact that the threat of Covid-19 infections has not been completely reduced in the Gauteng Province to justify such a move at this stage.

“The projected peak was not realised by end of September 2020 as per initial projections, the threat of the second wave of infections still remains according to the World Health Organization,” explains Gauteng Acting MEC for Health Jacob Mamabolo.

“The Province is cautious on its decisions to start reducing number of beds outside hospital environments without consideration of underlying threats of a second wave which is evidently being realised in other countries,” said MEC Mamabolo.

The NASREC facility was one of four facilities that were contracted by the Provincial Government to be used for isolation and quarantine of Covid-19 positive patients in the province.

The other sites were Telkom in Olifantsfontein, Transnet in Esselen Park and Eskom in Midrand.

Due to low demand for services in these facilities, and the need to make use of the venues by the owners, Telkom and Transnet sites were closed in August and September respectively, while the Eskom site is expected to be closed by the end of November.

NASREC will only close after January 2021 which is a key milestone post the festive season. The Department will be monitoring the festive season period closely as it relates to Covid-19 infections.

MEC Mamabolo expressed gratitude to all the state-owned enterprises for their support and for opening their doors to the public as the country faced the worst pandemic in centuries.

“On behalf of the Gauteng Provincial Government, I would like to express our sincerest appreciation for the support and facilities that were provided by Telkom, Transnet and Eskom in response to the call for strengthening capacity and efforts towards managing the Covid-19, we are truly grateful,” said Mamabolo.

In September, 21 patients were treated at the NASREC facility, while five have been admitted so far in October.

As by the end of August 2020, the Department has recorded the following accumulative expenditure on the facility:

- For a 500 beds Isolation & Quarantine Facility: R 58,121,400.68
- For 1000 beds P3 Facility: R 69,364,205.00

“The Department is projecting to spend less than what was projected based on full occupation of all beds procured. Should the beds occupation numbers remain consistent with the current rate, our projections for both facilities (combined costs) is at the region of between R 157,029,963 and R 255,896,761 for all costs inclusive of assets to be recovered,” said MEC Mamabolo.

**Ends**

**Issued by Gauteng Department of Health**

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