



GAUTENG PROVINCE

HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SPEECH

REMARKS FOR GAUTENG MEC FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS, NOMANTU NKOMO-RALEHOKO AT THE OPENING OF THE HYBRID ANGIO SUITE AND CATH LAB AT CHARLOTTE MAXEKE JOHANNESBURG ACADEMIC HOSPITAL

FRIDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2024

Programme Director

The CEO of Charlotte Maxeke Academic Hospital, Ms Gladys Bogoshi

Hospital board representatives

Solidarity Fund representatives

SPIRE representatives

Siemens representatives

All stakeholders and guests in our midst

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed guests and members of the media

A pleasant good morning to you all!

It is with great pride that we officially open the Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital's (CMJAH) new Hybrid Angio Suite and Cath Lab Theatre. This is a milestone that heralds a new era of advanced medical care for the people of Gauteng.

CMJAH is not an ordinary hospital it is Gauteng's main, and the country's leading, oncology hospital, mandated to offer full range of quaternary, tertiary, secondary and highly specialised services, and serves as a referral hospital for several lower-level health care facilities within, and outside of the province.

As many of you are aware, this hospital has faced considerable challenges, most notably the devastating fire that occurred on the 16th of April 2021. The impact of that incident was profound, leading to the safe emergency evacuation of patients and staff and the suspension of vital clinical services. However, in the face of adversity, we have witnessed tremendous resilience, collaboration and support from our partners.



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We further witnessed the generosity of our partners at the heart of COVID-19 pandemic when there was a great need in public hospitals to increase the number of ICU beds to accommodate the patients. As I stand here addressing you, today the ICU facility in this hospital has been expanded to include additional beds to ensure that we can provide care for those in need.

Programme Director, today, we celebrate not only the opening of this state-of-the-art facility but also the collaborative efforts that made it possible. I therefore want to take this opportunity to express gratitude to Solidarity Fund and SPIRE for their impactful support. I also want to acknowledge SIEMENS for sponsoring the structural refurbishment of the Cath Lab. These private-public partnerships are a testament of what we can achieve when we work together to improve lives and communities.

Over the years, SPIRE and Solidarity Fund have assisted the hospital with several financial interventions and donations as part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SPIRE and the Gauteng Department of Health. Their generous donations and funding have allowed us to address pressing needs in our hospital, including the renovations to the Casualty Area and critical fire compliance upgrades in Block 1 South.

The new Hybrid Angio Suite and Cath Lab is a significant investment that will enhance our capacity to deliver critical services for the communities we serve. This infrastructure upgrade is a key milestone in the hospital's radiology renewal project and will improve the Radiation Sciences Division, including the replacement and modernisation of critical equipment such as CT and MRI scanners, gamma cameras and cobalt machines.



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We acknowledge that access to high-quality healthcare is a fundamental right and through these interventions, we are taking steps to ensure that Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital continues not only play a leading role in the provision of specialised services as a public health facility, but most importantly, to meet the needs of our patients. These advancements will go a long way in improving our capacity to provide cancer treatment.

As we move forward, and ready the healthcare system for the roll out of the National Health Insurance, let us continue to prioritise collaboration and innovation for only through working together can we make access to universal health coverage a practical reality for all South Africans. I look forward to witnessing the positive impact that the new facility and the procured equipment will have on patients and the public healthcare system as a whole.

I thank you!