

# KZN HEALTH MS NOMAGUGU SIMELANE-ZULU URGES THE PUBLIC TO SUPPORT NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (NHI)



**health**  
 Department:  
 Health  
 PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL



**MEC FOR HEALTH  
 MS NOMAGUGU SIMELANE-ZULU**



**health**  
 Department:  
 Health  
 PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

## WRITTEN SUBMISSION

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE BILL

[B11 - 2019]

PC ON HEALTH

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME & SURNAME	
ADDRESS	
CELL NUMBER	

### DETAILED SUMMARY:

[Click here to complete the written submission electronically](#)

**Note: to successfully submit the form, download the form and open it in Adobe reader.**

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MY HEALTH. YOUR HEALTH. OUR HEALTH: A HEALTHY KWAZULU-NATAL.

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**KwaZulu-Natal Health MEC Ms Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu has urged citizens of the province to make their submissions in support of National Health Insurance (NHI), and the drastic improvements that it will make in the provision of, and access to, healthcare services in the country.**

Speaking during an Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) community outreach programme at Mbongolwane, Eshowe, on Wednesday 30 October 2019, MEC Simelane-Zulu also revealed for the very first time that public hearings about the NHI Bill would take place in the province during the weekend of 22 – 25 November 2019.

The MEC has described the current two-tier healthcare system as exclusionary, immoral, and an anomaly whereby 84% of the population uses public clinics and hospitals, yet the bulk of the country's doctors, dentists and specialists work in the private healthcare sector.

She added that the amount of money spent on healthcare for each person with a medical aid scheme was five times

more than that which is spent on each person who relies entirely on public health facilities.

All of this ultimately leaves the majority of the population in public hospitals not adequately catered-for. The MEC described NHI as a tool that will end the race, class divisions that plague the country's health sector.

She said that Government would continue reaching out to the public about the immense benefits of NHI.

"It is very important for us as Government to engage with our communities, and make our fellow compatriots understand what NHI is. The feedback that we've received has been extremely positive. People are upbeat and excited that Government is seeking ways to improve the quality of healthcare services, and to bring services closer to them. They are signing up, and making a commitment that they support NHI. Indeed, quality healthcare should not only be the preserve of those who are affluent. NHI will ensure that all the people of South Africa will have equitable access to healthcare. Currently, the level of help that you receive is determined by the size of your pocket, and essentially the colour of your skin, and that needs to

change."

**The NHI public hearings in KZN are scheduled as follows:**

- Friday, 22 November 2019, at Umkhanyakude District;
- Saturday, 23 November 2019, eThekweni District;
- Sunday, 24 November 2019, Harry Gwala District, and
- Monday, 25 November 2019, Umzinyathi District.

**Details on the exact venues will be announced in due course.**

"We are currently distributing forms that must be filled in and submitted to Parliament in support of NHI. The public can write on a normal page, by hand, and express their thoughts.

In those forms, we need the public to come out loudly and clearly in support of NHI, so that we can demonstrate to all and sundry – including the forces who are against this wonderful and life-changing programme – that the majority of the citizens of this country are in favour of NHI.

We need our communities to say once and for all that never, and

never again shall any person be denied access to healthcare and left to die just because their pockets are not deep enough.

We need our communities to say unequivocally that all South Africans are equal, and deserving of equitable access to dignified healthcare.

These submissions will then be sent to Parliament, so that our Government can implement this programme with full confidence that the citizens of this country believe in the process. We therefore call upon you to support us, and help us help you."

**Written submissions must be directed to Ms Vuyokazi Majalamba and be addressed to the Portfolio Committee on Health 3rd floor, 90 Plein Street, Cape Town 8000, e-mailed to [vmajalamba@parliament.gov.za](mailto:vmajalamba@parliament.gov.za) or faxed to 086 6943279 by no later than 29 November 2019. In addition to the written comments, participants are urged to indicate whether they wish to make a verbal presentation.**



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# IMPENDLE SIGNS IN SUPPORT OF NHI

**MEC Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu joined MEC for Social Development, Ms Nonhlanhla Khoza visiting in iMpendle on Tuesday, 29 October, to officially open the Siyamukela Early Childhood Development Centre.**

She explained the concept of the National Health Insurance Bill to community members in attendance and encouraged those who support it to sign in support. Here is what some members had to say:

**Poluhle Mlife (21):** I'm happy about the NHI because a lot of people don't have money, especially the elderly who are sometimes forgotten by their children who leave to work in the cities and don't support their parents. Most of the people who become ill here are geriatrics and children so I'm happy for them, I'm happy that we'll be able to receive assistance without paying

**Petros Ngobese (43):** I'm happy about what the MEC spoke about, about the NHI

**Benzile Mtshali:** This new initiative is really going to help, particularly us who don't work. We don't have enough money to pay for expensive medical care

The Centre will also serve as a parking bay for the local mobile clinic in order for the community to access health services closer to where they live. This mobile clinic will also administer vaccinations to children amongst other medication.



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# SET THE BAR HIGH, STRIVE FOR QUALITY

**“November” is Quality Month and Red Ribbon Month according to the Health Calendar. Both these aspects are very significant in our sector and critical to reflect on as we continue to discharge our daily responsibilities.**

Quality is a relative term that can be used in various contexts to rate, measure or explain something. It is a term that is so heavily embedded in health contexts to define the standard or level of healthcare service the Department renders to the public.

World Quality Day is celebrated annually on the second Thursday in November. Thousands of professionals across the globe will focus on issues of quality in

their respective sectors under this year's theme which says “100 Years of Quality”

Quality Month calls upon organisations and professionals to examine what quality tools and unique expertise are provided in the line of duty. Issues of quality are important to healthcare workers at all material times. This is because of the type of service that is provided; dealing with people and handling delicate cases of various diseases under varying circumstances as well as keeping to the set standards and regulations. In short Quality is the buzz word that should be engrained in the minds of healthcare professionals and is exercised beyond measure.

Every person should be involved in maintaining quality in all they do from the time health users

enter the health facility until they leave with a positive experience. The Department has a number of mechanisms to ensure quality is exercised like the Code of Ethics, Batho Pele Principles, National Core Standards, Office of Health Standards Compliance, Ideal clinics and the MASEA Awards to mention a few. All of these tools combined should spell out the Department's desired outcome that of provision of quality healthcare services to all people of KwaZulu-Natal.

Again the month of November is also a very important period as it allows the public to put the spotlight on one of the most serious social scourges facing our society – the abuse of women and children.

From 25 November to 10 December 2019, South Africa will

commemorate 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children. The United Nations defines violence against women as; “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”.

This is a time to emphasise the need to protect, defend and love women and the children of our land. The KZN Department of Health will be rolling out a series of campaigns to engage with communities about issues of violence and abuse affecting women

# ARE YOUR RED RIBBONS READY?

**The Month of November serves as the National Red Ribbon Month. This year's theme of the National Red Ribbon Month is a call to action to speak out in support of healthy choices.**

The theme is also a reminder that by staying drug free, you are sending a message to yourself and others about how much you value yourself, your

overall health, your community and your future. During the month of November the focus is on community members to gain an understanding of the significance and power they have to make healthy decisions and be a positive influence in their communities. The Red Ribbon campaign targets children from the age of 5, pregnant women, people with certain chronic health conditions such as asthma,

diabetes, or heart and lung disease, and people age 65. These target groups get the chance to vaccinate at the various events which will be held by the Department throughout the province.



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# CHILDREN

## TOMORROW'S DREAM

The Government of the Republic of South Africa declared the first Saturday of November as the National Children's Day. The aim of the National Children's Day celebration is to highlight progress being made towards the realisation and promotion of the rights of children.

With the plight of current women and children abuse that we have had to witness throughout the country; we are implored to take this opportune moment to remind ourselves of the values, morality, and belief systems we deem as the core and backbone of our society. Children are the prime indicators of the socio-political state of any nation. How we treat children, laws we put in place to protect and ensure optimal growth for them, and the response rate to their social ills – is what tells us how much we value the future- our children.

The Department of Health, in partnership with the Office of the Premier embarked on an initiative towards the establishment of child community diagnostic centres; that is Phila Mntwana Centres in the entire Province. These wellness centres serve as health promotion and disease prevention sites for children in the community and are linked to the Provincial Government flagship initiative Operation Sukuma Sakhe.

### THE PHILA MNTWANA CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE RENDER THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

- Growth monitoring.
- Screening for malnutrition.
- Supply of vitamin supplements.
- Diarrhoeal Disease Intervention.
- Promotion of breastfeeding.
- Screening of TB.
- Tracing of defaulters; that is immunization and other well child services.
- Referral for further management.
- HIV and AIDS support.

### BELOW IS SECTION 28 OF THE BILLS OF RIGHTS ENTITLED "CHILDREN":

#### Every child has the right to:

- A name and nationality from birth;
- Family care or parental care, or to appropriate alternative care when removed from the family environment;
- Basic nutrition, shelter, basic health care services and social services;
- Be protected from exploitative labour practices, not be required or permitted to perform work or provide services that are inappropriate for a person of that child's age or;
- Place at risk the child's well-being, education, physical or mental health or spiritual, moral or social development;
- Not be detained except as a measure of last resort, in which case, in addition to the rights a child enjoys under sections 12 and 35, the child may be detained only for the shortest appropriate period of time, and has the right to be kept separately from detained persons over the age of 18 years;
- And is treated in a manner, and kept in conditions that take account of the child's age;
- Have a legal practitioner assigned to the child by the state, and at state expense, in civil proceedings affecting the child, if substantial injustice would otherwise result;
- Not to be used directly in armed conflict.

Together we can all make a difference if we unite to strengthen awareness of children's rights and seek to always protect minors. We owe it to ourselves and the very belief systems we claim to stand firmly behind to protect the next overseers of our beloved country and constitution.

*"Our children are our greatest treasure. They are our future. Those who abuse them tear at the fabric of our society and weaken our nation."*

- Nelson Mandela (National Men's March, 1997)

**IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY OR SHOULD YOU WITNESS ANY MISTREATMENT OF CHILDREN YOU CAN CONTACT THE FREE NATIONAL CHILD LINE/ CRISIS LINE – 08000 55 555.**



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# KNOW YOUR CPR BASICS

## CPR IS AS EASY AS C-A-B



### COMPRESSION

**RESTORE BLOOD CIRCULATION  
WITH CHEST COMPRESSIONS**

### AIRWAY

**CLEAR THE AIRWAY**

### BREATHING

**GIVE MOUTH-TO-MOUTH  
RESCUE BREATHS**

National Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Week runs from 4-10 November to educate the public on this necessary skill of saving a life. CPR is an emergency procedure that is performed in an effort to manually preserve intact brain function until further measures are taken to restore spontaneous blood circulation and breathing in a person who is in cardiac arrest.

### **BASIC CPR CAN BE EXPLAINED**

#### **C-A-B:**

- *hard compression of the chest*
- *tilting back the head to clear the airway*
- *breathing, giving mouth-to-mouth rescue breaths.*



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# WORLD STROKE WEEK



South Africa commemorates World Stroke Week (28 October - 03 November) to raise awareness about the symptoms of stroke and importance of taking treatment for recovery. Strokes occur when the blood supply to part of the brain is cut off, and without blood which carries oxygen brain cells can be damaged or die. Depending on which part of the brain is affected and how quickly the person is treated, the effects of stroke can be devastating to a person's body, mobility, speech, as well as how they think and feel.

Like other non-communicable diseases, many strokes can be prevented through healthy lifestyle changes and taking control of health conditions that raise your risk for stroke. These include maintaining a healthy weight, quitting smoking, reducing alcohol intake, making the right food choices (such as reducing fatty, salty and sugary food intake in favour of vegetables and fruits), daily physical activity and managing daily stress. When patients are cared for, supported to adhere to treatment and attend rehabilitation programmes, the negative impact of strokes can be minimised.

## USE THE FAST TEST TO CHECK FOR THE MOST COMMON SYMPTOMS OF A STROKE IN YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE:

**Face:** Smile and see if one side of the face droops.

**Arms:** Raise both arms. Does one arm drop down?

**Speech:** Say a short phrase and check for slurred or strange speech.

**Time:** If the answer to any of these is yes, call the ambulance right away and write down the time when symptoms started.

Minutes matter in treating stroke. Calling a doctor or driving to the hospital yourself wastes time.

Ambulance workers can judge your situation sooner, and that boosts your chance of getting the treatment you need as soon as possible. Depending on the type of stroke, doctors may give you aspirin or powerful clot-busting drugs.

**The treatment works best when you get this medication within 3 hours of when your symptoms started. If your stroke was caused by a burst blood vessel, doctors will try to stop the bleeding as soon as possible.**

## WARNING SIGNS

Sometimes a stroke happens gradually, but you're likely to have one or more sudden symptoms like these:

- Numbness or weakness in your face, arm, or leg, especially on one side
- Confusion or trouble understanding other people
- Difficulty speaking
- Trouble seeing with one or both eyes
- Problems walking or staying balanced or coordinated
- Dizziness
- Severe headache that comes on for no reason

If you have these symptoms, call an ambulance even if you're not sure you're having a stroke.

The families and communities are urged to support people suffering from stroke and encourage patients to adhere to treatment and attend rehabilitation sessions in order to recuperate.

Strokes are increasingly becoming a public health challenge because they cause death and disability globally. According to the Heart and Stroke Foundation South Africa, strokes claim nearly 70 lives daily in South Africa.

Stroke is usually not painful, hence patients may easily ignore the symptoms and not seek medical attention in the hope that they will improve. However, common symptoms of a stroke include sudden weakness or numbness in face, arm or leg; loss of speech, difficulty speaking or understanding speech; loss of vision; severe or unusual headache; dizziness and trouble with walking.

All patients with stroke need to be stabilised as soon as possible while seeking urgent medical assistance.

General Justice Gizenga Mpanza Hospital hosted an International stroke day awareness event last week. All the speakers of the day emphasised taking the patient with stroke signs straight to the Hospital. This event was honoured by the presence of an ANGELS representative, Ms Kim Shuttleworth, who supports stroke awareness and management



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# BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AT GENERAL JUSTICE GIZENGA MPANZA HOSPITAL



Dr April and Dr Mnkwali (both from GJGM-Surgery Department) presenting to an audience during Breast cancer awareness month



Dr Lutchminarain (HOD Family medicine / member of Women's forum- GJGM Hospital) –Directing the programme for Breast cancer awareness

**On 30 October 2019 General Justice Gizenga Mpanza Regional Hospital commemorated Breast Cancer Awareness Day. The event was an initiative from GJGM Hospital Women's Forum and the Breast Cancer Clinic team to raise awareness amongst patients and staff.**

On this day the patients and staff were educated on the importance of breast examination. Among the speakers of the day, were a team from the Surgery Unit that runs the Breast Clinic every Monday and the Radiology team that offers mammography services at GJGM Hospital. The Mammographer (Ms Palesa Ramolahloane) gave in depth information about the mammography services at the Hospital. The core message for the day was to encourage the patients to get help early when they see the signs or the changes in the breast.

## DR APRIL AND DR MNKWALI FROM SURGERY GAVE A TALK ON THE SYMPTOMS OF BREAST CANCER SUCH AS:

- A lump or mass in the breast.
- Swelling of all or part of the breast, even if no lump is felt.
- Skin irritation or dimpling.
- Breast or nipple pain.
- Nipple retraction (turning inward)
- The nipple or breast skin appears red, scaly, or thickened.
- Nipple discharge.

## THE PATIENTS WERE ALSO INFORMED ABOUT SOME OF THE MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT BREAST CANCER SUCH AS:

**MYTH:** Using underarm antiperspirant can cause breast cancer.

**FACT:** There is no evidence of a connection between underarm antiperspirant and breast cancer.

**MYTH:** Breast cancer only happens to middle-aged and older women.

**FACT:** Younger women can and do get breast cancer, as do men.

Both patients and staff were encouraged perform self-breast examinations and to come to the Breast clinic early when they see the symptoms, especially women above 40 years of age who were advised to undergo annual clinical mammograms.



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# WHO SAID WHAT THIS WEEK

"We are currently distributing forms that must be filled in and submitted to Parliament in support of NHI. The public can write on a normal page, by hand, and express their thoughts. In those forms, we need the public to come out loudly and clearly in support of NHI, so that we can demonstrate to all and sundry – including the forces who are against this wonderful and life-changing programme - that the majority of the citizens of this country are in favour of NHI"

**KZN MEC of Health Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu.**

"No Healthcare system can survive without continuous quality

improvement and feedback".

**Dr Zweli Mkhize, Minister of Health**

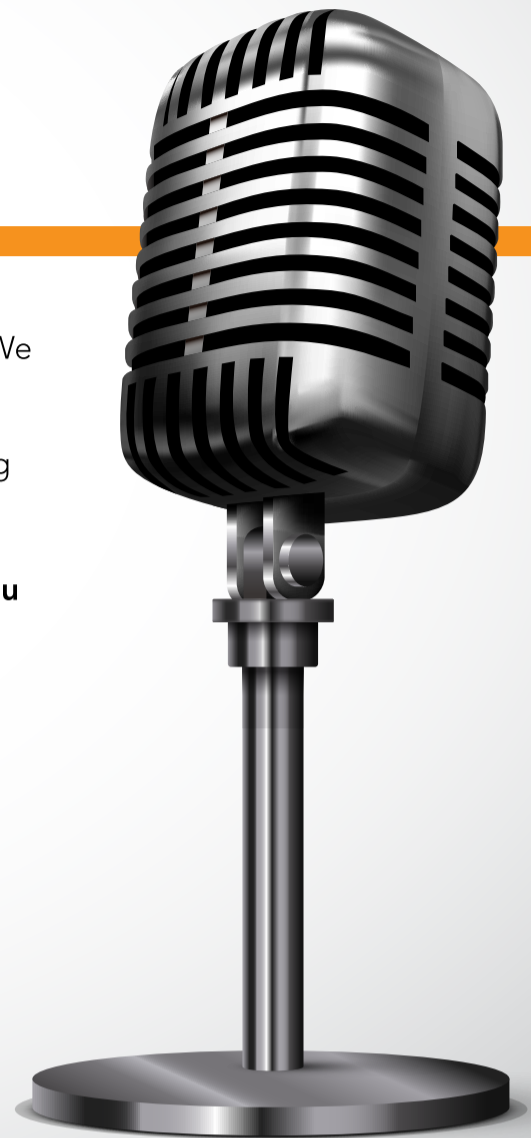
"The last time South Africa won the Rugby World Cup was in 2007, winning 15-6 against England. Earlier I spoke to Siya and assured him and the team of our unwavering support ahead of the semis against Wales. Best wishes to our boys".

**Cyril Ramaphosa, President of South Africa**

"We need our communities to say once and for all that never and never again shall any person be denied access to healthcare and

left to die just because their pockets are not deep enough. We need our communities to say unequivocally that all South Africans are equal and deserving of equitable access to dignified healthcare"

**KZN MEC of Health Nomagugu Simelane-Zulu.**



## INVENTIONS THAT SHAPED THE WORLD: THE BAND AID



**The Band-Aid was invented in 1920 by a Johnson & Johnson employee, Earle Dickson in Highland Park, New Jersey for his wife Josephine, who frequently cut and burned herself while cooking.**

The prototype allowed her to dress her wounds without assistance. Dickson passed the idea on to his employer, which went on to produce and market the product as the Band-Aid. Dickson had a successful career at Johnson & Johnson, rising to vice president before his

retirement in 1957. Perhaps a curiosity, the word "Band" in German means tape. The original Band-Aids were handmade and not very popular. By 1924, Johnson & Johnson introduced machine-made Band-Aids and began the sale of sterilized Band-Aids in 1939. In 1951, the first decorative Band-Aids were introduced. They continue to be a commercial success, with such themes as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Oliver & Jenny, Superman, Spider-Man, Rocket Power, Rugrats, smiley faces, Barbie,

Dora the Explorer, Batman and Duck Dynasty.

In World War II, millions were shipped overseas, helping popularize the product. Since then, Johnson & Johnson currently has estimated a sale of over 100 billion Band-Aids worldwide.[4]

Johnson & Johnson continues to defend the Band-Aid trademark from being genericized.

**Source:**  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Band-Aid>



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# #STRONGER TOGETHER.

SPRINGBOKS 2019



ENGLAND vs SOUTH AFRICA  
Saturday, 2 November 2019  
Kick Off: 11:00



This **Saturday, 2 November 2019**, let's support our Rugby National Team (Springboks) as they take on England in the do or die 2019 Rugby World Cup Final.

National teams remain our instruments that enhances social cohesion and nation-building.

As a sign of patriotism to the Springboks, government urges South African to **GO GREEN** on Friday and Saturday and wear their rugby jerseys / apparel. Let's come out in large numbers to all pre-arranged public-viewing areas and rally behind the Rugby National Team.

**Go Bokke, bring it home!**

**#StrongerTogether**



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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# KZN HEALTH IN PICTURES

OFFICIAL OPENING OF SIYAMUKELA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE @ IMPENDLE



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