

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION

Natalia, 330 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201 Private Bag X 9051, Pietermaritzburg, 3200 Tel: (033) 395 2582, Fax: (033) 342 0429

Cellphone: 082 466 9874 Email: sibonelo.msomi@kznhealth.gov.za

www.kznhealth.gov.za

TO: ALL MEDIA DATE: 19 JUNE 2007

EMBARGO: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA UPDATE: PUBLIC SERVICE STRIKE IMPACT ON HEALTH SERVICE

The eThekwini District health care facilities remain a challenge with some employees failing to report for duty. This is owed to a high level of intimidation to workers who want to come to work.

Striking employees are reported to be blockading entrances to our facilities and make telephone calls threatening those that have made it to their work stations. This results to problems in taking in large number of patients at our facilities.

However, the situation across the province has generally improved significantly.

The Department calls upon the unions to condemn the intimidation tactics used by some of their members to prevent those that want to serve the patients in our facilities. Health is a human right. Intimidation and threats directed to our staff will not be tolerated and anyone found employing these dirty tactics will be dealt with harshly and will be prosecuted.

Issued by:

Mr. Leon Mbangwa

General Manager: Corporate Communication

083 459 8695

For more information please contact Dr. Busi Nyembezi at 083 459 1172