OUR OPEN DAY

On the 17th of May 2007, Wentworth Hospital had its first open day since we were re-commissioned as a District hospital in 2004. Dr. S.B. Kader, the CEO welcomed all the guests and further gave a financial report. Dr. J. Ramdeen, the medical manager spoke in-depth about the services that the hospital provides and the referral system. The community was educated on the importance and the need of using their local clinics before coming to the hospital as they are a first step in the level of health care.

The community was also given an opportunity to share their experiences that they had encountered while visiting the hospital. The feedback was mostly positive with constructive criticism. This brought clarity to management in understanding the patients first hand experiences. The staff was spontaneous and creative as they performed an educational role play about a healthy lifestyle. *More pictures on page 2*
“A picture is thousand words.”

LEFT: Sr. Nkabinde from the Out-Patients Department explaining about TB to some of the guests.

ABOVE: Showcasing their work, from the dental department is the Dental Therapist- Mrs. J. Saimlall and Oral Hygienist- Mrs. C. Cele

RIGHT: Sr. Petros from the Stoma Department with Sr. Vezi

LEFT: Guests viewing the stall of the Dental Department.

ABOVE: Sisters from the ante-natal clinic and labour wards enjoy the refreshments served.

RIGHT: The staff from ward C4 performed a role play and had everyone laughing.

LEFT: Sister Bodha, explaining to one of a guest information about Health Promotion.

ABOVE: The Maintenance team from the Workshop department that helped make the Open Day a success.

RIGHT: A patient of Wentworth Hospital, shared her experiences with the guests, Rene Smith.
I am Dr. Jayshree Ramdeen, Medical Manager at Wentworth Hospital. Wentworth Hospital is a District Hospital in the South eThekwini District. A day in my life is quite hectic but exciting and not without the challenges faced by all managers in the Department of Health.

Everyday starts with receiving the Nursing Manager’s report on the previous day and night, looking at bed numbers, number of admissions, availability of beds and fielding off any adverse incidents that may have occurred. A quick walkabout to see what’s going on in the OPD areas or a meeting with the various categories of staff I manage is usually next in line.

We run a very active Professional Development Programme at Wentworth which is 3 times a week; spearheaded by Family Medicine. On Tuesdays: Journal Club, on Thursday: CME Topics and case presentations and on Friday: Paediatric update by the department of Paediatrics – UKZN – Nelson Mandela School of Medicine. In between we host outside speakers on topical or relevant subjects.

A large amount of time is spent ensuring that we provide a quality service and that involves looking at some of the following:

- Ensuring performance management is in place, doing staff reports, skill audits and trying to bridge the skill gaps.
- Monitoring of intern training and ensuring that we maintain our accreditation status.
- To provide medical input at the equipment committee meetings.
- Provide for input into staff wellness and ensure that some medical cover is available for staff problems. Medical surveillance and weight reduction and exercise programmes are ongoing.

Outreach programmes in the way of community awareness are undertaken especially by the dental and pharmacy departments.

Commissioning the medical services at Wentworth Hospital has been an exciting and rewarding experience despite the staff challenges. We currently run 8 wards; a labour ward, a theatre service and a Midwife run O&G services which are in the process of expanding. I thank all the medical, paramedical, nursing and administrative staff at Wentworth Hospital that has made Wentworth Hospital to be benchmarked on numerous occasions.

“The challenge of converting Wentworth from a Tertiary service to a District level service has come to fruition, however not yet completed.”
For the second time around Wentworth Hospital was the chosen venue for yet another launch. The MEC, Ms. Peggy Neliswa Nkonyeni was at our hospital for a hand-over of 50 mobile clinics which forms part of the MEC’s commitment to enhance the Mobile Clinic services especially in the rural areas. The chosen day for the event was the 10 July 2007 at our sports grounds. This day marked a very remarkable achievement in the realization of the 2007 Budget Speech theme that says ‘Investing in women and children secures a healthy nation’.

Ms. Nkonyeni stated, “One good reason why we have decided on this type of an investment is because we are more concerned about the distances covered in hostile terrains by our sick, injured and pregnant people in order to access medical care.” The Department Of Health in KwaZulu Natal is committed to fighting disease, poverty and giving hope. **Pictures of the event below:**

1. The banner and the mobile clinics on the grounds. 2. A cheerful smile from Ms. N.P. Nkonyeni. 3. Some of the guests at the event listening attentively. 4. Wentworth Hospital staff pose with the MEC. 5. Sr. Bodha, Sr. Damane and the MEC. 6. Dr. Ramdeen gives the Vote of Thanks. 7. Ms. Nkonyeni getting her pressure checked by Sr. Makhosi Dube. 8. The handing over of the keys by the MEC to the Hospital Manager.
On the 31st May 2007, the Cancer Association of South Africa sent two Representatives to Wentworth Hospital to educate and inform the patients of our hospital about cancer. The theme of the day was 100% smoke-free environment and the message was delivered to the patients effectively. The benefits of quitting was the key concept of the message by Mr. Nene, a representative from cancer association. These are a few important benefits that are rewarding when you quit smoking:

1. You will be less short of breath when you exert yourself and staying power will improve.
2. Within a couple of days, you’ll start to feel and smell fresher. Your taste buds will come alive and your sense of smell will return. You may also experience euphoria after achieving something you thought impossible.
3. Within 3 weeks, your lungs are working better. Exercising is easier.
4. You’ll have more energy (and feel a sense of pride and satisfaction)
5. Your teeth will be whiter. And after 1 year, risk of coronary heart disease is almost half that of continuing smokers.

Sister Bodha, the Health Promotions Co-ordinator, giving a speech on World No Tobacco Day.

Mr. Nene, a representative of Cancer Association speaking to the patients.

Some of the poisons in tobacco!!!

PAINT STRIPPER
Acetone
LIGHT LIQUID
Butane
ROCKET FUEL
Methanol
TIOLET CLEANER
Ammonia
VINEGAR
Acetic Acid

MOTHBALLS
Naphthalene
ANT POISON
Arsenic
DISINFECTANT
Phenol
EXHAUST
FUMES
Carbon Monoxide

Some information on this page was sourced by: The Cancer Association of South Africa.
The hospital embarked on a polio campaign within the hospital and then later had an Out-reach programme. This is one of the main priorities of child healthcare. Polio is an illness that causes sudden weakness/lameless of limbs and sometimes death in children. Poliomyelitis is a viral infection which enters the body through the intestine. It is highly contagious among children especially below the age of 5 years. The campaign was successful as over 660 children were vaccinated from the 05 May to the 13 May. As part of the campaign we visited the following venues: Pick n Pay bluff centre, Settlers Primary, Jacobs Hostel, Noddy Play Centre, Pandora Pre-primary, Smart Kids, Kiddie Academy, Azotus, Little Star, South Coast Madressa, St. Gerads, Smurf Baby and Toddler Centre and St. Monica’s Home.

The group was previously employed as the non nursing staff at the hospital and were being introduced to health care by orientating them with some basic nursing care e.g. Bed baths, Feeding of patient, Pressure pumps care, catheter care, patients mobilization, serving of meals, communication and ethics at the workplace.

The orientation took place from the 2nd of April to 5th April. The reason for this orientation was to improve patients care and to promote the team work in health care. The orientation was conducted by Sr. J.G. Mgaga. A follow up of orientation takes place every Wednesday 2pm-4pm and provides an update for the learners.
We all demand quality in the services we are provided. Quality is something that every organization strives to have, as it makes their name reputable. Quality is in the eyes of the customer, therefore there is a need for continuous quality improvement initiatives which include waiting time and client satisfaction surveys. These help to monitor the way our clients view the services we provide as an institution. According to the Quality Manager, Matron Jali, quality can be said to be a “set of activities that are carried out to set standards, and which monitor and improve performance, so that the care provided is as effective and as safe as possible”. It is important to meet the customers expectations and this means doing it right the first time. A client can recognize a quality service by a number for example, cleanliness, courtesy ect. “As the quality team, we are there to assess and monitor that we, as the hospital provide the best to our customers.”

**Quality is in the eyes of the customer.**

**Masibambisane Raffle**

Thank you to all the staff members who supported the Masibambisane Clinic’s second raffle, the proceeds will be used to buy sewing machines and equipment for the patients to learn skills. The patients are taught by the skills development team how to sew, crochet and the males also learn beading. This enables them to generate their own income. This event took place at Masibambisane Clinic, on the 30 May 2007. All the items that were on sale were handmade by the patients of Masibambisane Clinic.

**5 IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER:**

1. **Think carefully**– it is the source of power.
2. **Be friendly**– it is the road to happiness.
3. **Laugh**– it is the music of the soul.
4. **Read**– it is the fountain of wisdom.
5. **Work**– it is the price of success.
**MEN TAKE CARE OF THEIR HEALTH**

On the 11 July 2006, as part of health promotion the sisters of Wentworth hospital had a day where males can test for prostate cancer. The testing was a complete success as 126 male patients were tested all being over 40 years old. Patients were also given brochures on testicular cancer and the sisters explained how to identify testicular cancer. CANSA obtained the test kits from Abbott laboratory and the blood was analyzed by Bouwer and partners a private laboratory. Patients were educated about the groups that are mainly affected by testicular cancer they are: Men with a family history of testicular cancer or those with fertility problems. The men that attending the testing were also informed that they should spread the information to other family members and friends as early detected testicular cancer can be treated and cured faster. This is a very rare kind of cancer in men and can occur in men between the ages of 20-40 years and the cause is unknown.

**OUR COMRADES RUNNERS**

Our two comrades runners Bala and Dlamini once again took part in the famous comrades marathon. It was a race from Pietermaritzburg to Durban on the 17th of June 2007. They both finished the race before the specified cut off– time and got Bronze medals. The two have been running the race from 1990 and have collected a number of prizes and medals e.g. Both runners have won The Bill Rowan medal and Bala received 5 silver and both a number of bronze. The Bill Rowan is the medal awarded to runners who complete the race under nine hours. Congratulations to our runners, we are proud of you.
Some departments within the hospital had to say to their goodbyes to some of their members. The Human Resource department had a surprised party for Pam Mkhize. She had been with the department for four years. Pam was utterly surprised when she was “invited” to her own farewell party. The medical department also bid their farewell to the intern doctors who had been with us for 6 months. Speaking during the farewell, Dr Ramdeen, the medical manager thanked them for the dedication they showed and asked them to continue to do what they do best, that is putting the patients first. To all the above named colleagues may your dreams become a reality. Your hard work was noticeable, go out there and show the world what you are made off.

"YOU CANNOT FLY WITH THE EAGLES IF YOU SCRATCH WITH THE TURKEYS.."

"THE GREATEST GLORY IN LIVING LIES NOT IN NEVER FALLING, BUT IN RISING EVERYTIME WE FALL..."
The PR Department would like to thank all those who have contributed to this newsletter. Your continued support, enables us to produce quality publications.

Thank you, is a word you that we don't often hear, but there are people that appreciate the good work that is done. This article proves this.

The Public Relations Editorial team request your assistance in improving future newsletters by providing us with newsworthy information.

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