MEDIA RELEASE	**COVID-19: PSA forces Mpumalanga Hospital to test employees**
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EMBARGO	None
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Intervention by the Public Servants Association (PSA) resulted in the screening of all employees at Mammetlhake Hospital in Mpumalanga, despite reluctance by the employer.

On 30 March 2020 the PSA was informed by members at Mammetlhake Hospital that one of the doctors at the Hospital tested positive for COVID-19 but that management was reluctant to test employees who had interacted with the doctor until they show symptoms of infection. The PSA immediately contacted the CEO of the Hospital to confirm the status and requested that the necessary measures be taken to secure the well-being of employees by either testing them or placing them on precautionary quarantine. The CEO confirmed that, in fact, two doctors had tested positive for COVID-19 and were placed under quarantine. A team was established to investigate the extent of contact the doctors had with employees and patients to determine the exact number of employees to be placed on quarantine. Management, however agreed, through the PSA's intervention to screen and eventually test all employees who voluntarily declared to have been in contact with the doctors.

The PSA will keep monitoring government institutions for compliance with the required health and safety standards and, especially to ensure the well-being of workers tasked with rendering critical services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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