MEDIA RELEASE	**PSA concerned about ripple-effect of Cholera outbreak in Hammanskraal**
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) is extremely concerned about the current Cholera outbreak in Hammanskraal, north of Pretoria.

This outbreak poses a severe health risk to the community and public servants who render health services to these patients. This water crisis is an ongoing matter dating back as far as 2018, yet there are still no plans in sight to deal with this crisis. Government's nonchalant approach in addressing this matter boils down to an infringement of citizen's constitutional right to access to basic needs such as clean water.

The PSA is concerned that the Department of Health does not have the capacity to manage and contain such an outbreak, with dire consequences for health professionals and the country. The PSA calls for decisive action by the Minister of Health to employ more nurses to address the crisis. The few nurses who are currently employed are overstretched and struggle to cope with their workload. The PSA warns the Minister that should he not intervene immediately and ensure compliance with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, this outbreak become pandemic that South Africa will not be able to contain.

The PSA urges President Cyril Ramaphosa to establish a task team to resolve this water crisis and ensure that infrastructure is in place. Strict timelines need to be agreed to resolve this matter speedily as the health sector will not be able to cope with another pandemic, which will devastate over-burdened healthcare workers.

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