



FOR PSA MEMBERS: MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

02-04-2020

## COVID-19 update: Department of Health – Measures to reduce and contain spread of virus

The PSA welcomes the suspension by the Provincial Department of Health of visiting time at all hospitals for the duration of COVID-19 lockdown period with effect from 31 March 2020. This measure will help to ensure the safety of workers and patients in hospitals.

The Department has also decided on the scaling down of services to increase the capacity of hospitals to deal with the outbreak as follows:

- All elective operations to be put on hold and patients will be informed accordingly by clinical managers.
- All non-emergency patients must not be referred without approval from the referral hospital/consultant.

This decision will help to control the spread of the virus and protect employees and patients from contracting the virus from visitors. The PSA remains worried about the shortage of water at most Clinics, including Mthimba and Pankop. The PSA lodged a formal written complaint to the Department, registering the ongoing shortage of this necessity in some Clinics. The PSA will monitor progress on the provision of water at the mentioned Clinics.

**GENERAL MANAGER**