

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - LIMPOPO

29-04-2020

## Feedback: COVID-19 teleconference meeting - 28 April 2020

### Personal protective equipment (PPE)

The employer reported that it received enough PPE in the province. The PSA requested clarity on the ordering process. The employer responded that there are two routine ways, i.e. order from hospital or to use a push system from nominated facilities namely, Jane Furse, Seshego, Voortrekker, Van Velden and Tshilidzini.

### Household screening

About 2.7 million people have been screened from 14 April 2020 and 3 500 were referred for testing. One person in Mopani District tested positive and those who had contact with this person have been traced and screened.

### Jane Furse One-Stop College and others

A circular will be issued directing all institutions that nursing students should go back to their facilities since they are essential workers. The PSA cautioned the employer that even though the Nursing Council postponed exams, members should still have time to study, which the employer noted.

### State of readiness: Cleaners at Health facilities

The employer reported that approval was delayed as the submission had to include other training as mandated by the national Department of Health, which will include Human Resource Development (HRD), Renal Training Centre (RTC) and Wellness before being approved by the Head of Department.

### Absorption and placement: Health professionals during COVID-19

The PSA noted the arrival of more than 200 Cuban health professional in the country and raised concern that external help was sought, despite a huge number of unemployed health professionals in the province. The PSA believes that local professionals can make a huge difference in the health system as they are readily available and should be prioritised. Their understanding of local languages is also an advantage. The employer indicated that the officials are on the departmental database and will be invited if necessary. However, currently infections in the province are under control. Although Cuban health professionals are experts, Limpopo has not received any allocation.

GENERAL MANAGER