

FOR PSA MEMBERS: EASTERN CAPE- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

06-07-2020

Increasing COVID-19 infections and OHS non compliance: Various clinics and hospitals (Mthatha Area)

Several employees in various hospitals and clinics have tested positive for COVID-19, owing to non-compliance of COVID-19 regulations. The following Institutions were affected:

Ndanya Clinic

An employee tested positive for COVID-19; direct contacts were tested and quarantined and the clinic was closed for decontamination. The PSA Office is in the process of arranging a virtual meeting with the Clinic Management on the reported lack of PPEs.

Buntingville Clinic

The PSA learned of the untimely passing of an employee, who collapsed and succumbed to COVID-19. The clinic was closed for decontamination, employees screened and tested and eight tested positive. The PSA extends its condolences to the family, colleagues, and friends of the deceased and urges employer to ensure that COVID-19 safety regulations are always followed and implemented.

Ntaphane Clinic

Ntaphane clinic was closed after seven (7) employees tested positive for COVID-19 positive, owing to a lack of proper PPEs. The PSA condemns the carelessness of the employer, for failing to ensure the safety of the employees as per the OHS and COVID-19 regulations and guidelines. A meeting with the employer is arranged to address the lack of PPEs and failure to ensure safety protocols.

Mount-Ayliff Hospital

Eight employees tested positive for COVID-19 and shockingly the hospital was not decontaminated with the poor excuse of lacking cleaning materials. The PSA rejects this attitude and demands that a service provider be sourced and advises its members to refuse to enter an unsafe working environment. Management is reminded of their obligation to ensure a safe working environment for labour peace. With the rise of confirmed cases, encouraged by the lack of PPEs, and a clean environment, the PSA contacted the department for the provision of the PPEs. It further engaged the Medical Depot, to establish the availability of PPE stock and how PPE's are distributed to remote clinics and hospitals. It was confirmed that there is a shortage of PPE stock in the province.

Members will be informed of the developments.

GENERAL MANAGER