

FOR PSA MEMBERS: GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

25-05-2020

UPDATE: COVID-19 and Readiness to return to work

PHSDSBC Resolution 1/2020

The PHSDSBC Gauteng Chamber convened a special virtual meeting *via* Zoom on 14 May 2020. The meeting dealt with the presentation of Resolution 1/2020, that aims to appoint the Steering Committee members for COVID-19 into Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committee, as per the DPSA circular 18/2020. Parties endorsed the Resolution that appoints the Steering Committee, in the Interim to the Occupational Health and Safety Committee (OHSC). The OHSC appointed in the interim shall deal with OHS in line DPSA circular 18/2020 to ensure the safety of workers during the disaster caused by COVID-19. OHS Committees shall function at all health facilities and districts and the PSA shall be represented by its shop stewards.

COVID-19 standard operating procedure for health facilities

The PSA has succeeded in ensuring that the Departments HOD Prof Lukhele, sign the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), for all health facilities in Gauteng for uniformity when managing and reacting to COVID-19 related situations. The SOP requires that all facilities and districts have OHS Committees and those Committees shall report to the Provincial OHS Committee on all matters related to COVID-19. The SOP is attached to the Informus for ease of reference.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The PSA has noted that there are complaints regarding the availability of PPE and have since demanded responses from the HOD, concerning the whole procurement process of PPE. The PSA continues to monitor all PPE challenges and are raising the issues sharply in the OHSC Committee to ensure that workers are protected. Members of the PSA shall be provided with information relating to PPE on an ongoing basis.

COVID-19 precautionary measures

The PSA has noted the sharp increase of COVID-19 infections amongst workers and is monitoring the situation including, demanding compliance to Occupational Health and Safety provisions relating to COVID-19. The PSA urges its members to adhere to social distancing and avoid using tea rooms in large groups.

GENERAL MANAGER