

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA commends Witpoort Hospital Management and PSA shop stewards in Waterberg, Limpopo for swift evacuation of patients following devastating floods
DATE	17 January 2025
EMBARGO	None
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) commends Witpoort Hospital's management and PSA shop stewards for swift action in evacuating patients following devastating floods caused by heavy rains in Limpopo.

This action saw patients moved from the Waterberg District to Ellisras Hospital. Although it is well known that Limpopo has endured extensive rains over the past days, it was not perceived that it would lead to patients being evacuated from one facility to another. Flooding in the facility started on 13 January 2025 at approximately 23:00 and continued into 14 January 2025. The floods forced the evacuation of patients to Ellisras Hospital for their safety and continued medical attention as wards were also flooded. Community members were advised to seek medical attention from local primary healthcare facilities as the floods also affected access to the Hospital.

Stanley Tshisevhe and Donald Masenya, PSA shop stewards at Witpoort, worked tirelessly with the Hospital's management to ensure that all necessary protocols were followed for the safety of patients and employees. The PSA will ensure that management deals with logistical issues of ensuring that relatives are informed of patients' whereabouts. The PSA will also pursue the speedy repair of the facility for patients to be returned to Witpoort Hospital as it will be challenging for relatives to visit them at Ellisras Hospital owing to the distance.

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