

FOR PSA MEMBERS: NORTHERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

03-05-2021

Update: COVID-19 Kakamas Hospital - Shortage of staff

The PSA escalated a complaint relating to a shortage of staff at Kakamas Hospital to the authorities of the Department. The situation worsened when only two doctors from six remained at the Hospital. This caused a strain on service delivery, as the two doctors run the risk being drained physically and emotionally. This is happening during the COVID-19 pandemic and a possible third wave hitting the country.

The PSA is concerned that there is no update yet from the Department of Health, despite the Union's letter being received on 1 April 2021. There is no implementation of a plan yet to alleviate the pressure on the doctors. The Department has not indicated what measures will be taken regarding the failure of Kakamas Hospital management to deal with this serious issue. The non-movement of the Hospital management poses a risk to existing staff and the greater community of the region.

The PSA appreciates that there is a general shortage of health personnel in the province, however, it cannot be tolerated that management's failure to intervene should place lives in danger.

Members will be informed of developments and can contact Russle Bindeman on 082 883 7563 for any queries.

GENERAL MANAGER