

NDOH Provincial Support Visit Strengthens Nursing Leadership and Service Delivery

By Likhona Gobozi

The National Department of Health (NDOH) Provincial Support Visit for Nursing Services was conducted at the East London Health Resource Centre, bringing together key stakeholders to assess progress, identify challenges and strengthen nursing services across the Eastern Cape.

The visit focused on supporting quality healthcare delivery through strengthened nursing leadership, management and governance. It also provided a platform for stakeholders to reflect on progress made, share experiences and identify areas requiring further interventions.

The programme was facilitated by Ms. Lucy Chisale, Deputy Director: Nursing Practice from the NDOH. The key focus of the engagement was monitoring the implementation of the Nursing Leadership Competency Framework and assessing progress achieved at the appointed Clinical Education and Training Units.

Proceedings began on a reflective note, with Mr. Sipiwu Mfengu, Nursing Manager from Cecilia Makiwane Hospital, leading the opening prayer. His contribution set a respectful and purposeful tone for the engagement and encouraged attendees to work collectively towards improving nursing services.

During the visit, Chief Nursing Officer Dr. Matandela emphasised the importance of effective leadership in ensuring the successful implementation of the Nursing Strategy. She highlighted significant limitations identified in nursing leadership across all levels, underscoring the need for strengthened leadership capacity and improved management practices.

The discussions provided stakeholders with an opportunity to examine existing challenges and consider practical measures to address gaps in nursing leadership, management and governance. Participants also reflected on the role of nursing leadership in creating an enabling environment for healthcare professionals to deliver safe, effective and quality patient care.

The provincial support visit demonstrated the importance of continued collaboration between the NDOH, provincial health structures and nursing leadership. Through ongoing monitoring, support and constructive engagement, stakeholders can strengthen nursing systems and contribute to sustainable improvements in healthcare delivery.

The engagement concluded with a renewed commitment to addressing identified gaps, strengthening nursing leadership and supporting the implementation of strategic initiatives aimed at improving the quality of nursing services across the Eastern Cape.



Figure 1 Nursing leaders and health care professionals from across Eastern Cape participating in the NDoH provincial support visit for Nursing Services.

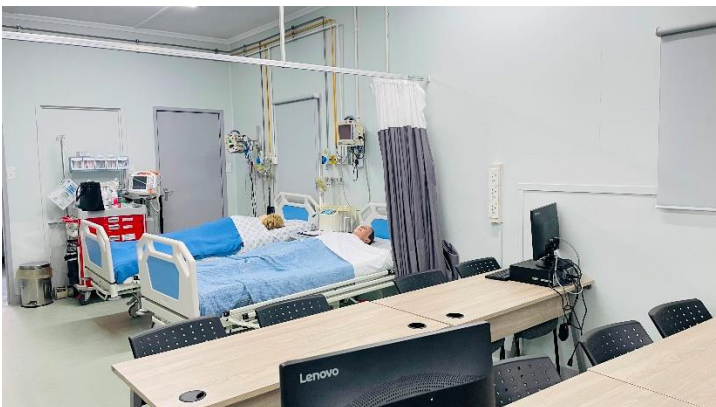


Figure 2 Clinical Education and Training Unit ward equipped with advanced equipment and simulation facilities.



Figure 3 A NEHAWU representative pledges support for strengthening nursing leadership and improving health care service delivery.