Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
HEALTH

26-30 October 2026



WEEK AT A GLANCE

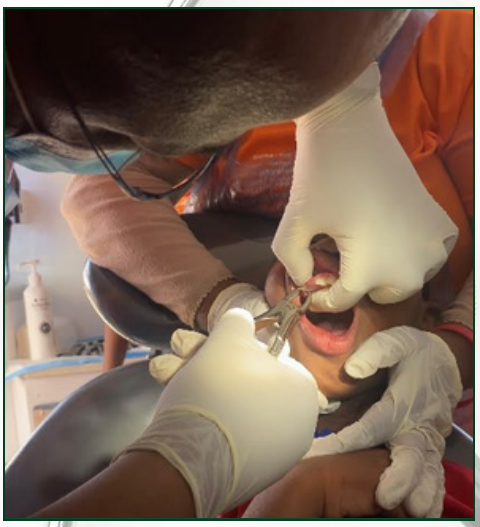
A glimpse of healthcare delivery across the Eastern Cape.

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

This week, the Eastern Cape Department of Health strengthened specialised healthcare services in Mthatha through the opening of a new Dental Unit and a R416 million Oncology Unit at Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital, officially opened by Health MEC Ntandokazi Capa on 29 October 2026 . In partnership with Operation Smile, the Department also continued dental outreach services, targeting 1,000 clients and providing 40 life-changing cleft lip and palate surgeries. These developments mark significant progress in expanding access to quality dental and cancer care across the province.



DENTAL OUTREACH AND CLEFT LIP AND PALATE SURGERIES PROGRAMME



NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL OPENS NEW DENTAL

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DENTAL OUTREACH AND CLEFT LIP AND PALATE SURGERIES PROGRAMME



RESTORING SMILES AND CHANGING LIVES IN MTHATHA

The Eastern Cape Department of Health, in partnership with Operation Smile, is conducting the 2026 Dental Outreach and Cleft Lip and Palate Surgeries Programme at the Mthatha Regional Hospital (MRH) and the Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital (NMAH) in Mthatha. Dental services are ongoing, providing essential oral healthcare and promoting good dental habits. A total of 1000 clients is target.

Meanwhile, patients identified through cleft lip and palate screenings at Zimbane Lodge (Patient Village), are now receiving life-changing surgeries. A total of 40 surgeries will be conducted.

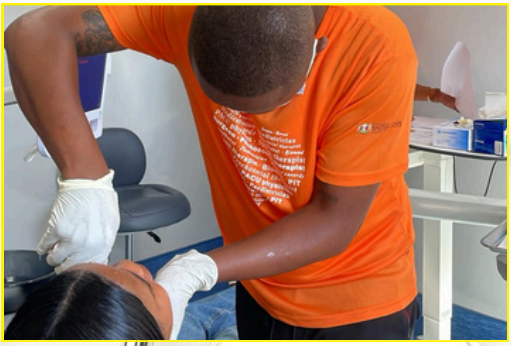
Together, these initiatives improve access to healthcare, restore confidence and bring hope to communities.

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2030 NDP

NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL OPENS NEW DENTAL UNIT



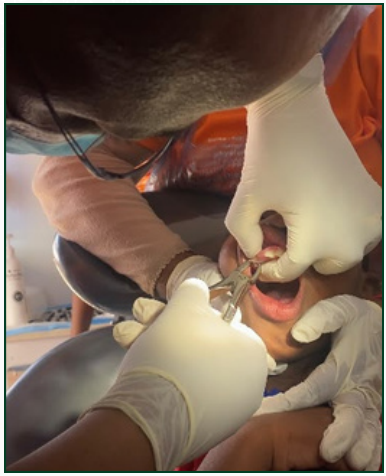
NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL OPENS NEW DENTAL UNIT

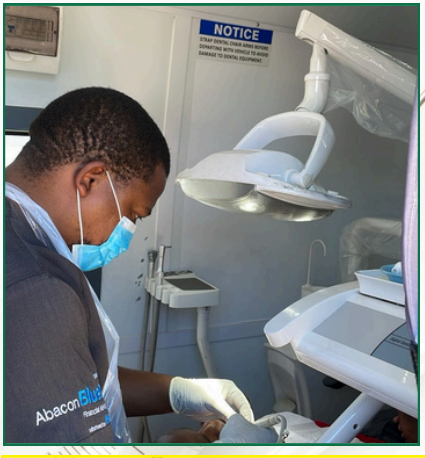
The Eastern Cape Department of Health officially opened a new Dental Unit at the Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital in Mthatha on Thursday, 29 October 2026. The R13,6 million facility was officially opened by Health MEC Ntandokazi Capa, marking an important milestone in strengthening oral healthcare services.

The hospital CEO Ms Nomkhitha Mthonjana highlighted that the new unit will improve access to essential dental healthcare services for the community, reduce the burden on existing facilities and ensure patients receive quality care closer to home.

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ONCOLOGY UNIT OPENED AT NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL



NEW R416 MILLION ONCOLOGY UNIT OPENED AT NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL

The Eastern Cape Department of Health, in partnership with the Eastern Cape Office of the Premier officially opened the R416 million Oncology Unit at the Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital in Mthatha on Thursday, 29 October 2026.

The facility marks a significant milestone in bringing specialised cancer care closer to communities, particularly in Mthatha and surrounding areas, improving access to cancer diagnosis, treatment and support services while strengthening the fight against cancer.

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