

MEDIA STATEMENT

All Media

02 April 2026

CLARIFICATION ON DIALYSIS SERVICE AND PATIENT CASE AT PIETERSBURG HOSPITAL

The Limpopo Department of Health has noted a social media post regarding a patient who expressed concerns about not receiving assistance at hospital. We would like to provide clarity on the matter, while acknowledging the concern raised.

Contrary to the narrative that she was denied care at the hospital, the patient was attended to at Pietersburg Hospital in December 2025. At that time, she underwent an operation and afterwards received an acute dialysis session at Pietersburg Hospital. At that time, due to the high demand for chronic dialysis services, patients are managed through a waiting list system.

Subsequent to that, the patient voluntarily opted to leave the waiting list and went for private dialysis care. Unfortunately, follow-up consultations at Pietersburg Hospital were not continued. As a result, the patient could not be retained on the hospital's active waiting list.

We are, however, pleased to confirm that the patient is welcome at the hospital to be reassessed and at no point was she denied access to dialysis. The Department continues to provide chronic renal dialysis services to eligible patients, with 145 patients currently on the haemodialysis programme. Given the high demand for this specialised service, waiting lists are necessary where capacity is exceeded. Patients are encouraged to continue attending scheduled consultations, as this supports continuity of care and consideration for admission into the programme when space becomes available.

To improve access and reduce waiting times, the Department is in the process of establishing two satellite dialysis centres at Tshilidzini and Letaba Hospitals, which are expected to be operational in the 2026/2027 financial year. We remain committed to engaging openly with our communities and to providing equitable, patient-centred healthcare services.

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Department Spokesperson

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