

BOPHELONG

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MEC MASHEGO APPLAUDS LETABA HOSPITAL TEAM AS LIMPOPO CELEBRATES SAFE ARRIVAL OF TRIPLETS



LETABA HOSPITAL: MEC for Health Ms. Dieketseng Mashego has praised the exceptional dedication of healthcare professionals at Letaba Hospital following the successful delivery of healthy triplets, (two girls and a boy) by a 33-year-old mother from Dzumeri Village, outside Giyani.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Letaba Regional Hospital, Ms Victoria Rakgoloane, described the delivery as a rare and highly complex Caesarean section performed successfully on Wednesday afternoon, 22 April 2026.

“Credit must go to Dr Sithole and his midwifery team for the sterling work they put in to en-

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sure a successful delivery, especially given that this was identified as a high-risk pregnancy,” said the CEO.

During her visit, MEC Mashego conveyed her gratitude and warm wishes to the mother and her newborns, presenting them with gifts as a gesture of support and wishing them good health, strength, and a bright future.

“I would like to personally congratulate both the mother and the entire medical team for their exceptional work, which has placed the hospital and the public healthcare system in the province on the map,” MEC said.

MEC Mashego further emphasised that the people of Limpopo should take pride in the tireless efforts of public healthcare workers, who continue to save lives and deliver quality care to communities

across the province.

“This achievement stands as a powerful reminder of what a capable and responsive public healthcare system can achieve when its professionals are supported, empowered, and focused,” she added.

Meanwhile, Mr Brisco Ntimba, the father of the triplets, spoke on behalf of the family, saying, “I would like to sincerely thank everyone who supported us through this difficult time. It was not an easy jour-

ney, and we are truly grateful for all the love and care we received from the healthcare professionals at this hospital.”

He also admitted that at one point he felt extremely anxious, not knowing what might happen.

“I was worried about both the triplets and their mother because in cases like this, a lot can happen. For instance, I could have lost either the mother or the babies, or even both,” he said.

Ntimba, however, could not hide his joy following the successful delivery, adding, “I feel incredibly blessed and relieved to share that all our children and their mother are safe and doing well.”

“I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the doctor who helped my wife through this, as well as all the nurses for their dedication and care. I also extend my appreciation to MEC Mashego, and the management of the hospital under the leadership of CEO Rakgoloane for the support shown.

“Thank you all for standing with us during the entire pregnancy and we will never forget the service we received from this hospital,” he emphasised.



MEET THE DOCTOR BEHIND THE SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY OF TRIPLETS AT LETABA HOSPITAL



Dr. Rich Sithole is a Medical Officer in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Letaba Regional Hospital since 2023.

He obtained his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, (MBChB from Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University) in 2019, followed by a Diploma in Obstetrics (CMSA) in 2024 and FCOG Part I in 2025.

Dr Sithole is passionate about women's health and clinical obstetrics and said, "I'm committed to advancing my expertise and my wish is to see myself specializing in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, which will enable me to fully contribute to maternal and reproductive healthcare."

He, (Sithole), together with a dedicated medical team from the Obstetrics and Gynaecology De-

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partment at Letaba Regional Hospital worked together to ensure the safe delivery of the triplets.

He describes the successful delivery of the triplets as a historic not only for the hospital, but the entire district of Mopani and the province as whole to citing the complexity and rarity nature of the pregnancy.

“The mother of the triplets was identified at Dzumeri Clinic as a high-risk pregnancy at 19 weeks because she was diagnosed with hypertension and an increased body mass index (obesity),” said Dr Sithole.

Given the high-risk nature of the pregnancy, Dr Sithole further explained that the patient was

subsequently referred to Nkhenesani Hospital.

“It was at this stage that an ultrasound scan confirmed a higher-order pregnancy involving triplets,” he indicated.

Following this confirmation, Dr Sithole and the medical team closely monitored the patient to ensure the safest possible outcome for both the mother and her babies.

“We scheduled follow-up visits every two weeks to closely monitor both the mother and the triplets,” he explained.

According to Dr Sithole, this careful monitoring continued until the mother reached 34 weeks of pregnancy, at which point a successful Caesarean sec-

tion was performed.

“I am pleased to announce that the operation was uneventful, and both the babies and their mother are recovering well in our wards,” he added.

Furthermore, Dr Sithole acknowledged the strong spirit of teamwork at Letaba Regional Hospital and across the entire public healthcare system.

“I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of teamwork and to recognise the leadership of several colleagues, including Dr Mabasa, Dr Maluleke (the Acting Head of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department) at the hospital, and Dr Kgalane,” he concluded.

MEC CALLS FOR ACCOUNTABLE, AND HANDS ON HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP AT KGAPANE HOSPITAL



YESTERDAY: MEC Ms. Dieketseng Mashego, concluded her unannounced visit to Kgapane Hospital with a strong message centred on appreciation and accountability.

The visit followed a comprehensive walkabout across the facility, during which she engaged directly with both patients and staff to gain firsthand insight into the hospital's operations and service delivery.

During her visit, the MEC commended the hospital's leadership for their dedication and commitment to providing community-centred healthcare. She acknowledged the efforts of management and staff.

"Your continuous efforts to maintaining service standards despite ongoing challenges within the public health sector is highly recommendable," she said.

She further highlight on the importance of visible and hands-

on leadership, emphasizing that effective healthcare management requires active presence within facilities rather than operating solely from offices.

"I encouraged the management to remain engaged on the ground for purpose of better understanding and responding to the needs of both patients and healthcare workers," she adds.

The visit ultimately reinforced the critical role of patient-centred care and proactive leadership in strengthening the public health system, particularly in rural communities.





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