

## MEDIA INVITE

14 July 2023

### NELSON MANDELA ACADEMIC HOSPITAL ONCOLOGY UNIT A STEP CLOSER TO REALITY

**BHISHO** — After years of travelling to East London for treatment, cancer patients from the Eastern part of the Eastern Cape, are a step closer to accessing the life-saving treatment in Mthatha.

This, as MEC for Health Nomakhosazana Meth, will be at Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital on Monday for the introduction of the contractor and tree planting ceremony.

This will pave the way for the construction of the oncology unit at the facility.

Upon completion, the R416-million project will produce state-of-the-art oncology building with additional services offered.

These include inpatient chemotherapy, radiotherapy, intracavitary brachytherapy, radioactive iodine and paediatric oncology services.

The provision of comprehensive Oncology services will improve and promote early screening and detection of various cancers.

Current observation is that patients present and get diagnosed in late stages of the disease, often when little can be done.

This contributes to lower survival chances and increases morbidity. Late diagnosis is often due to limited access to cancer awareness, early diagnosis, treatment and palliation.

The media is invited to cover and report on this important development.

The details are:

Venue: Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital

Date: 17 July 2023

Time: 10am

Issued by the Eastern Cape Department of Health.

For inquiries, contact:

Mr Mkhululi Ndamase, Spokesperson to MEC on 071 851 8338

Ms Yonela Dekeda, Provincial Spokesperson, Eastern Cape Department of Health on 083 378 0968

