

## DIHLABENG REGIONAL HOSPITAL

### Bethlehem



#### General

Dihlabeng Regional Hospital is a secondary hospital situated in Bethlehem, in the Eastern Free State, Thabo Mofutsanyana District. It serves as a specialised referral facility for five district hospitals, i.e. Phekolong, Nketoana, Phutholoha, Itemoheng and John Daniel Newberry, which are situated in three local municipal areas in the district. The patients seen at the hospital are predominantly referred from the aforementioned district hospitals, as well as some of the local private medical practitioners. The hospital provides level 2 specialised services in eight of the nine basic disciplines for a regional hospital and some level 3 (tertiary) services. The hospital operates 135 beds,

#### Vision

Rendering appropriate and compassionate quality care the first time and every time.

#### Mission

Dihlabeng Regional Hospital renders compassionate patient centred, specialised hospital services, to the Thabo Mofutsanyana community through:

- Competent, committed, dynamic, innovative, motivated and skilled staff.
- Highest appropriate standards of care and technology.
- Working in concert with the changing health needs of the community.
- Cost effective and sustainable means.
- An effective referral system.
- Development and empowerment of the community in a welcoming, patient friendly environment.

#### Services provided

The following **disciplines** are provided by multi-disciplinary clinical teams led by medical specialists;

- Anaesthetics
- Family Medicine
- General Surgery
- Internal Medicine
- Orthopaedics
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology

- Ophthalmology
- Paediatrics
- Radiology
- Urology

The following **tertiary services** are available at the hospital through outreach from Universitas Academic Hospital:

- o Oncology (Cancer) [including chemotherapy]
- o Paediatric Psychiatry
- o Haematology
- o Human Genetics
- o Urology

## **PATIENT-CARE UNITS**

### **Inpatient beds**

There are 135 in-patient beds, with average bed occupancy rate of 80% and average length of stay of 4 – 5 days.

### **Casualty Department**

The department is equipped to handle casualties of accidents and other medical emergencies and resuscitation.

### **Medical Unit**

- A comprehensive Internal Medicine department is provided under the leadership of two specialists
- General Surgery
- A variety of surgical procedures are performed under the leadership of two surgeons.

### **3 Operating Theatres**

There are 3 well-equipped operating theatres that are served by 2 anaesthetists and other medical officers. A total of ±350 operations are performed monthly.

Types of operations:

- General Surgery
- Laparoscopic Surgery
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Urology
- Orthopaedics
- Eye Operations
- Etc.

### **Intensive Care Unit**

The hospital operates a general ICU with 3 beds for adults and infants. The fourth ICU bed is opened under exceptional circumstances.

### **Renal Unit**

The unit runs haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis programmes, with 10 and 2 patients respectively. Periodically acute renal dialysis is also provided when needed

### **Paediatric Unit Neonatal High Care Unit**

The paediatric and neonatal services are provided under the leadership of 3 paediatricians, one on full-time appointment.

### **Maternity Unit**, including:

- o Ante Natal Care
- o Delivery rooms
- o Post Natal Care
- o Coloscopy Unit

### **Endoscopic Unit**

The unit does examinations such as gastroscopies and colonoscopies.

### **Orthopaedic Unit**

A wide range of orthopaedic services are provided by a multi-disciplinary team that includes one full-time and two sessional specialists. The orthopaedic procedures performed include open reduction of fractures and joint replacements.

### **Specialised OPD Clinics**

The following clinics are run on rotational basis and they serve ±3000 patients monthly.

- Diabetic
- Oncology
- Surgical
- Medical
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedic
- Haematology
- Human Genetics
- Gynaecology
- Urology

### **Clinical Support Services**

The following clinical support services play a critical role in ensuring comprehensiveness of the patient care.

- Radiographic services
- Physiotherapy
- Speech and Audiology
- Occupational Therapy
- Dietetics
- Social Work
- Clinical Psychology

### **Pharmaceutical Services**

The hospital pharmacy is manned by four pharmacists and it stocks and dispenses a wide range of appropriate medication. The current prescription rate is 4.5 items per script. All patients receive prescribed medication from the pharmacy during the time of their admission in the hospital. However treatment on discharge is only issued to subsidised hospital patients, while private patients are issued with prescriptions for private pharmacies.

### **Telemedicine Unit**

The newly installed telemedicine unit enables the doctors at Dihlabeng to obtain the opinions of the professors in Bloemfontein on managing patients without having to send them to Bloemfontein.

#### **Radiological Services**

The radiology unit is manned by 4 radiographers under the leadership of a sessional specialist. A range of specialised examinations are performed, as well as ultrasonography. The CT scan service is provided at Mofumahadi Manapo Mopeli. Through teleradiology, the turnaround time for reporting on the scans is expected to improve significantly.

#### **Training**

The hospital is accredited for the training of medical and pharmacy interns as well as pharmacy interns. The nursing school at the hospital is also approved for the training of a maximum of 90 nursing assistants per annum.

#### **Referral responsibilities**

The hospital receives referred patients from 5 district hospitals and refers to Universitas Hospital for tertiary care. Patients are also referred back to district hospitals when their conditions no longer warrant specialised care. Inter-hospital transfers are done by the departmental Emergency Medical services, which includes one helicopter.

#### **CONTACT US**

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