



Republic of Botswana

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23 April, 2018

TO: All Media Houses

PRESS RELEASE – RAPE INCIDENT IN HEALTH FACILITY

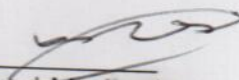
Early Sunday morning one of our female nurses was raped on duty at Extension 2 clinic in Gaborone. The incident happened when the nurse was on a health break at around 4am. The nurse was seen by doctors the same morning in the clinic and the incident was reported to the Police who responded promptly to the crime scene.

The Ministry leadership met with staff and also visited the victim's family to offer emotional support. Counseling services have also been sought for the entire staff of the health facility and investigations are on-going.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness condemns this inhuman and unfortunate incident. The Ministry appeals to the public and stakeholders, including the community to work together in ensuring that public places such as health facilities remain safe and trusted by users.

The Ministry regrets this incident and assures the public that measures are being put in place to ensure that such incidents do not happen again in future. Some of the issues include:

1. Extension 2 clinic operating hours will be reduced to 1930hrs effective today Monday 23rd April 2018 to Wednesday 25th April 2018 to allow the Ministry to deal with this issue. Normal services will resume on Thursday 26th April 2018.
2. The Botswana Police has been approached to offer surveillance to facilities offering 24 hours service.
3. Strengthening facility management and security services to prevent these incidents happening in future.
4. Meetings with stakeholders such as Unions will be commenced to collectively find ways of preventing such incidents in future


Dr Alfred Madigale

Honourable Minister of Health and Wellness

Vision: A Model of Excellence in Quality Health Services.
Values: Botho, Equity, Timeliness, Customer Focus, Teamwork, Accountability

