



PARIRENYATWA GROUP OF HOSPITALS

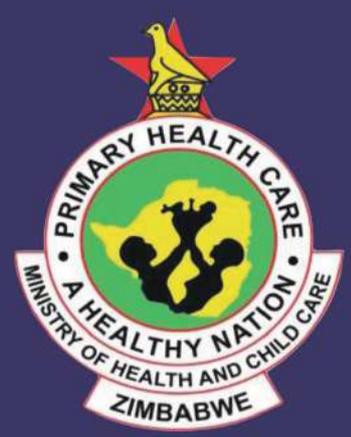
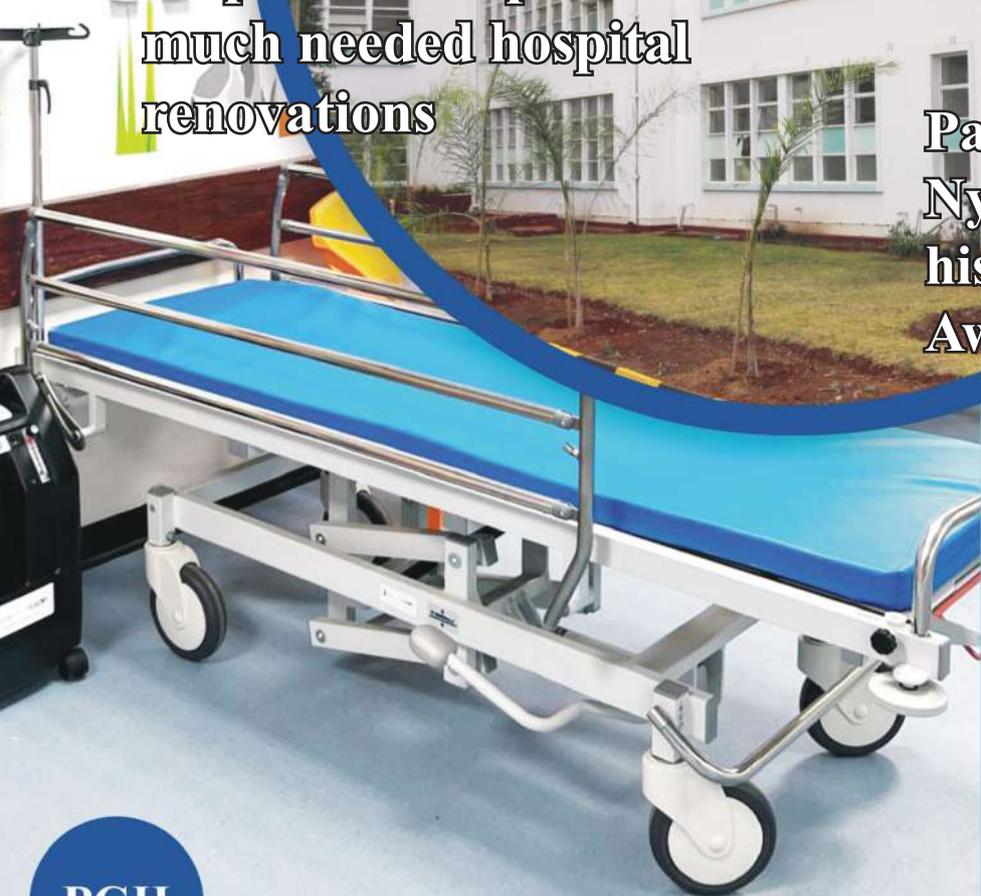
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PULSE



**President
Mnangagwa's
surprise visit spurs
much needed hospital
renovations**

**Pari partners ARC and
Nyaradzo Group in
historic Men's Health
Awareness Week**



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Hospital Food Services Staff Awards



Dr Lawrence Matanhike speaking



Recent Open heart surgeries with Egyptian specialists



Minister of Health and Child Care Dr Mombeshora's tour to assess renovations at Parirenyatwa Hospital



Minister of Health and Child Care Dr Mombeshora's tour to assess renovations at Parirenyatwa Hospital

Presidential Visit Spurs Major Renovations at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospital

For many years, Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals has borne the brunt of public criticism, particularly on social media, where users often lament the ageing infrastructure and strained facilities. While some of these remarks may have come from skeptics and cynics, they ultimately served as a form of constructive criticism that reached the highest office in the land.

In a move that surprised both staff and the public, His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. Emmerson Mnangagwa, conducted an unannounced visit to Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals. His impromptu tour was more than symbolic. It reflected a listening leadership that is responsive to the concerns of ordinary Zimbabweans and showed strong political will toward improving the nation's healthcare system.

The President's walk through the hospital, guided by a nurse and viewed through the eyes of a concerned citizen rather than a Head of State, made a powerful statement. It was a demonstration of his administration's commitment to the health and wellbeing of every Zimbabwean. He has consistently stated that upgrading the healthcare sector is a top priority under the Second Republic—and his recent visit only reinforced that pledge.

Following the President's visit, Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals quickly began work on renovations that are expected to transform the institution into a modern, world-class healthcare facility. This wave of rehabilitation has already seen activity at Adlam House, a residence for trainee nurses, and Mbuya Nehanda Maternity Hospital.

The President's proactive stance inspired additional follow-up by key government officials. Shortly after his tour, Minister of Health and Child Care Dr. Douglas Mombeshora, accompanied by Minister of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Dr. Jenfan Muswere, conducted their own assessment of the facility. Also present were Dr. Aspect Maunganidze, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Child Care, and Mr. Nick Mangwana, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information.

These high-level engagements underscore the growing attention being given to the state of public healthcare infrastructure. Importantly, they also reflect an era of renewed collaboration between government, pri-



President Emmerson Mnangagwa tours Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals

vate partners, and hospital administration.

Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals has come a long way since its humble beginnings in 1890. Initially established as a small medical outpost, it gradually expanded into a comprehensive healthcare complex. By 1963, the institution included several key facilities: Salisbury Central Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, Lady Chancellor Maternity Hospital, Orthopaedic Centre, and the African Outpatient Clinic.

After independence, these units were consolidated and renamed to reflect Zimbabwe's new political and cultural identity, forming what is now known as Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals. Today, the complex is the largest in the country, boasting a capacity of 1,800 beds and employing more than 2,000 staff members.

As a flagship referral institution, Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals plays a vital role in the national healthcare system. For staff to perform at

their best and for patients to receive quality care, the environment must be conducive, well-maintained, and equipped to modern standards.

These renovations could not have come at a better time.

The refurbishment process is being guided by a long-term vision to align the hospital's infrastructure with international standards. Notably, international partnerships are also expected to play a role in this transformation, with countries such as Belarus contributing to the hospital's modernization journey.

The ongoing upgrades which have been in earnest signal Government's intention and commitment. Once finished, they will represent a new chapter for Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals—a chapter defined by renewed purpose, patient-centered care, and a revitalized commitment to excellence in public health.



Minister of Health and Child care Dr Douglas Mombeshor tours of Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals

Pari partners ARC, Nyaradzo Group and Classic 263 Radio in historic Men’s Health Awareness Week

Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals together with its partners Adult Rape Clinic (ARC), Nyaradzo Group and one of Zimbabwe’s most listened radio station Classic 263 held a successful men’s health awareness week which had a massive turnout.

The Men’s Health Awareness Week a first of kind was conceptualised to prioritise and conscientise men on matters surrounding thier health.

This is against the background roven by data that men often visit medical practitioners when it is too late. Thus this platform was created to address men’s health issues bringing them to the fore and also to show Parirenyatwa Hospital’s commitment towards educating the populace on healthy living and importance of screenin of various diseases.

Talented multiple award winning artiste Jah Prayzah, Nyaradzo Group brand ambassasador also graced the event where over a 1000 men were screened for prostate cancer. Twenty-five percent tested positive for prostate czancer.

The Acting Clinical Director Dr Morgan Mhlanga said it was important for men to get regular screenings of prostate cancer to prevent going to the hospital when the disease would have advanced, “Most men come to our Hospital when the disease is at an advanced state. So men should take advantage of such events that we as a Hospital craft for you,” he said.

Memory Zimbudzana from ARC said as a PVO they noted that most programs were targeting women.

“T h i s time around we found it fitting to have one which focusses on men who are usually sidelined,” she said.

Patrick Mhuka from Nyaradzo said, “We are glad to hear about this program



Jah Prayzah hands over gift to Parirenyatwa Hospital

which saw us quickly jump on board because we believe in Public Private Partnerships that support health initiatives especially for men. And this program aligns with our Hubaba drive which is being championed by Jah Prayzah, our brand ambassador. “Jah Prayzah encouraged men to go in their numbers at health facilities.

“It is important for us as men to go for regular health screening not just for prostate cancer but other conditions. We want to avoid a situation

where one goes to the facility in a wheelbarrow, emaciated with advanced disease,” he said.

Some of the men stated that they were being sidelined on issues to do with their health.

“We have been observing from the terraces how us as men are being left behind in health issues especially in matters to do with awareness,” said Mr Tinashe Musarurwa who attended the day.

He commended the organizers of the event saying there should be more days like this instead of them being done in a single day.



Parirenyatwa Hospital Public Relations Officer Mr Mautsi speaking. Flanking him are PGH Acting Clinical Director Dr Mhlanga, Jah Prayzah and Memory Zimbudzana from ARC



Men getting screened for blood pressure

From Overload to Upgrade: Parirenyatwa to Launch New Incinerator

It is around 3 p.m. in the afternoon when at the one of the incinerator workers is glad to be posted at the new incinerator. He had been anxiously waiting to work there after spending some weeks under training on how to operate it as well as safety and health protocols.

The Hospital has been using a smaller operator to burn clinical waste which saw it outsource some of the waste to other players at a hefty cost.

With medical waste disposal blamed as environmentally unfriendly, incineration is recommended especially if done properly. Disposal of medical waste is also important for infection, prevention and control in the Hospital.

“This one is what we’re using now. It’s from the old system. We had an older model with this base. Basically, what we’re supposed to burn here at Parirenyatwa is clinical waste,” explained the Hospital Incinerator Operator.

“The large one we had before could handle general waste. It had a much higher capacity. I can’t give exact measurements, but to give you an idea, our T35 truck used to carry two and a half loads to it.

“That was the old unit. The current one can’t even handle a full load—it manages about three-quarters or less of a truck,” he added.

Because they are burning general waste in a clinical waste incinerator, they are falling short of their targets and are being forced to operate at higher temperatures while relying on more manual labour.

“This unit is specifically designed for clinical waste. But we’re feeding it general waste. In terms of heat, when you add moist or wet items, the temperature drops, so you can’t process the load effectively. Ideally, clinical waste should burn effortlessly. But with general waste, we need manual effort to keep it burning,” he said.

The Incinerator Operator stressed the importance of clinical waste incineration for infection prevention and control.

“Incineration is vital to prevent the spread of diseases. We ensure that some waste materials are tightly sealed or wrapped before disposal. If opened, the air released can carry infections—for example, TB, which is airborne. That’s why we tightly close the plastic bags containing such materials,” he explained.

He also highlighted the distinction between clinical and general waste.

“Clinical waste is what’s generated from patient care—things that can’t just be thrown into ordinary bins. The Local Authority Waste



The Incinerator



The Incinerator

Department doesn’t handle that. It has to be incinerated. On the other hand, general waste includes things like drink cans, sadza leftovers, and various plastics. We collect that in regular trash bags. Clinical waste is graded and sorted—some goes into bins, some must be incinerated. But we’ve ended up using a clinical waste incinerator for general waste, and that’s caused a lot of issues,” the operator added.

The Government, through Treasury, purchased a state-of-the-art incinerator.

“The incinerator delivered last year was bought from China. It is now operational. It has a capacity of 500kg per hour. In the long run, it will help us clear all the clinical waste at the hospital. We also understand it will serve sister hospitals for their waste incineration,” said Regis Torongo, the Acting Chief Hospital Engineer.

Torongo noted the incinerator was about to be launched.

“In terms of progress, most of the major work is done. The incinerator is installed, the power supply is in place, and the water system is being connected. What’s left are just minor tasks. We’re also looking at Harare Hospital, where a new incinerator is being installed, and Chitungwiza Hospital, among others. Government departments like the Police may also be able to use our facility,” he said.

Powering the Future: Parirenyatwa Hospital Ditches Oil for Safer, Smarter Circuit Breakers



Regis Torongo, the Acting Chief Hospital Engineer.

Zimbabwe has, for some time now, been enduring frequent power cuts, and unfortunately, Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals has not been spared.

Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals is a specialist quaternary facility equipped with sophisticated medical equipment such as MRI machines, dialysis units, theatre equipment, radiotherapy machines, ventilators, and surgical systems, to mention but a few.

In a quaternary hospital where lives are at stake every moment, safety is not optional—it is foundational. It is vital to ensure that services provided by such critical equipment are never interrupted.

Relying on electrical infrastructure dating back to the hospital's original construction, the engineers at the institution have, through dedication and perseverance, continued to make do with what is available.

Despite ongoing calls to modernize and align the hospital's infrastructure with cur-

rent technologies, it long seemed like a pipe dream—especially given the continued use of outdated oil circuit breakers.

That dream has finally materialized, as the hospital's electrical engineers have now transitioned to vacuum circuit breakers.

"At the hospital, we have nine substations, all of which previously used oil circuit breakers. These OCBs distribute power to the MV boards, which then channel electricity to various wards. These OCBs were installed when the hospital was first constructed. The challenge with them is their mechanical operation, which is more cumbersome than electrical systems," explained Regis Torongo, the Acting Chief Hospital Engineer.

"They also use oil, which poses a fire risk. With the new technology we're adopting, we've started installing vacuum circuit breakers (VCBs), which use gas to quench the arcs generated when switching. These VCBs are easier to operate. They feature a touchscreen interface that displays parameters such as load current and voltage—unlike the old OCBs. They are user-friendly, and anyone can operate them."

Consistent power supply significantly reduces the risk of equipment failure during critical procedures or patient care, directly enhancing survival and recovery rates.

"When electricity goes out, the VCBs do not switch off; they remain on when power returns. They only trip in the event of a short circuit along the line. Unlike OCBs, which use oil and striker fuses, VCBs eliminate many of the old system's limitations. With OCBs, if one striker fuse isn't working, you need two people to operate it. The fuse carrier must be removed and dipped into oil—a hazardous process," Torongo noted.

He added, "MV boards now have isolators or breakers, replacing the old fuse systems. Fuses are no longer readily available on the local market. Now, with the press of a button, you can switch power on or off. We're currently using MV boards, isolators, and breakers. This particular one is the PC2 substation for the workshop. It has two transformers—we run one at a time. If one fails, we switch to the other, ensuring uninterrupted power supply."

"This is an oil circuit breaker we removed and replaced with a vacuum circuit breaker. The new unit is compact and user-friendly. To turn off electricity from one transformer, you simply press the 'off' button. To turn it back on, you charge it by pushing a lever until it gives a yellow indicator, then press the button to switch it on."

Torongo emphasized that VCBs are known for their safety, utilizing vacuum interrupters that eliminate the risk of fire and significantly reduce the chance of arc flashes. Safer electrical infrastructure improves patient outcomes by reducing the likelihood of fire or electrical accidents, thereby protecting both patients and staff.

"The old OCB was heavily mechanical and made of steel. To switch it off, you had to use a metal handle. There's a compartment inside with a fuse carrier that holds three striker fuses. You had to replace them manually, immerse the fuse carrier in oil, while another person operated internal metal components of the OCB. Afterwards, only one person was allowed to remain in the room to switch it on—just in case of an explosion, to minimize risk. That compartment holds the oil, hence the name Oil Circuit Breaker," he explained.

Parirenyatwa School of Nursing: A Gold Standard in SADC Nurse Training



Principal Tutor Rachel Longwe.

Established in 1923, Parirenyatwa School of Nursing (PARI SON) is one of Zimbabwe's oldest and most prestigious nurse training institutions. Each year, it continues to grow in reputation and capacity, becoming a cornerstone of nurse education both locally and beyond Zimbabwe's borders.

Renowned throughout the SADC region, PARI SON is celebrated for its rigorous academic standards, strict clinical training, and a wide array of post-basic specialties. Its comprehensive approach to nurse education ensures that graduates are equipped to provide safe, precise, and effective care—minimizing the risks that come with clinical errors.

PARI SON offers extensive post-basic training, also known as specialization programs. While midwifery remains the most common specialization, the institution is uniquely positioned in Zimbabwe as the sole provider of several niche programs, including ophthalmic nursing, renal nursing, oncology and palliative care nursing, intensive and coronary care, operating theatre nursing, and nurse anaesthesia.

"Post-basic training is for qualified nurses with at least two years of experience," explains Principal Tutor Rachel Longwe. "We're proud to be the only institution in the country offering programs such as ophthalmic, renal, oncology, and palliative care nursing."

By maintaining high educational standards, the school ensures that its graduates are not only ready to serve in Zimbabwe's healthcare system but are also capable of making meaningful contributions on a regional and international scale. This has helped attract students from beyond the SADC region, including as far as Equatorial Guinea. In turn, this strengthens Zimbabwe's reputation for producing skilled healthcare professionals and boosts employment opportunities for its nurses abroad.



PSON choir

"As Parirenyatwa School of Nursing, we are proud to be the largest nurse training institution in Zimbabwe," Longwe says. "We are the only school in the country currently training foreign students, with enrollments from Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, and Namibia."

She adds, "This demonstrates that we are a force to reckon with in nurse education. We are the center of excellence—that's our motto."

Currently, the school admits students directly from high school into its general nursing program, with three intakes per year and around 60 students per class. Post-basic diplomas are one-year programs. The total student population, including general and post-basic trainees, currently stands at around 400.

"In recent assessments, we had a 100% pass rate and were ranked number one nationally. We scooped gold, silver, bronze, and fifth-place awards," says Longwe proudly. "In the intensive care program, we received silver, bronze, and fourth position nationally. Our ophthalmic, oncology, palliative care, and renal nursing programs all had 100% pass rates. The nurse anaesthetist program had a 98% pass rate—only one person failed."

She continues, "These results speak volumes. We are probably the busiest nursing school in the country. If compensation matched the workload, staff here would certainly be smiling."

PARI SON is more than just a training ground for nurses. It also hosts trainee tutors from universities and nurses trained abroad who require orientation to local standards. Despite a heavy workload, the institution is well-resourced, with 23 tutors, 18 clinical instructors, an assistant librarian, and two executive assistants. Its library is stocked with up-to-date materials, and its computer lab, though modest, supports student research and e-learning.

However, the school faces ongoing challenges, particularly with student accommodation. Due to high enrollment, current housing facilities fall short—especially for male students, who must share rooms with limited privacy.

In response, the school has adopted an innovative solution aligned with Vision 2030 and the national development mantra *Nyika inovakwa nevene vayo* (A country is built from within). They introduced an annual \$100 administration fee, approved by both management and the Minister of Health, to fund improvements in student housing.

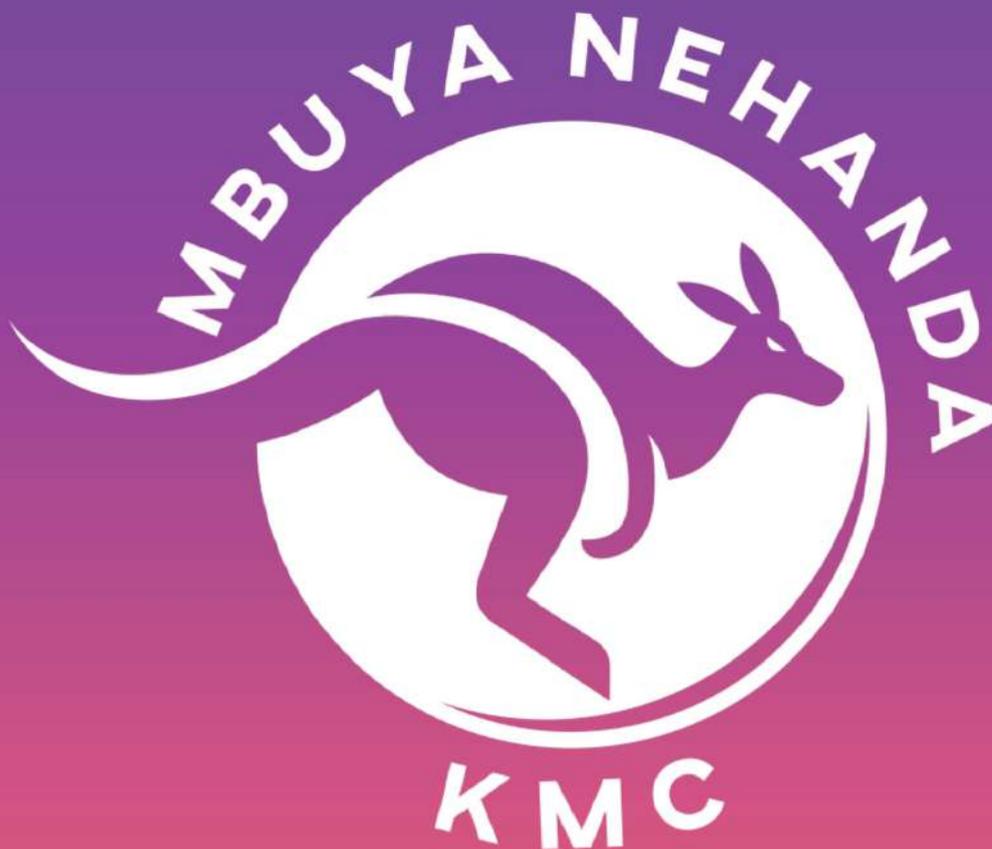
"I'm happy to say we've begun construction on state-of-the-art accommodation," Longwe shares. "We started with the male students and are ensuring these new facilities reflect the standards of an institution of higher learning. We are being fully transparent: students are part of the oversight committee, and funds are deposited into a dedicated account used exclusively for refurbishment."

She adds with pride, "We're purchasing durable, quality furniture from reputable suppliers. It's going to be beautiful."



MBUYA NEHANDA

IMMEDIATE KANGAROO MOTHER CARE UNIT



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Supporting Grieving Mothers: Parirenyatwa Pioneers Bereavement Suite

Grieving the loss of a baby—whether through miscarriage, stillbirth, or shortly after birth—is one of the most profound and traumatic experiences a parent can endure. For many mothers, this grief is intensified by biological, psychological, and social factors, with little to no support to help them cope.

Mental health experts warn that women who experience pregnancy or infant loss are at increased risk of conditions such as postpartum depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In communities where pregnancy loss remains a taboo subject, many women suffer in silence, often burdened by feelings of guilt, shame, and isolation.

Recognizing this silent crisis, Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals in 2023 established a dedicated Bereavement Suite in partnership with the mental health organization Someone Always Listens To-You (S.A.L.T) Africa. Tucked away from the usual bustle of the maternity wing, the suite offers a dignified, compassionate space for women and families to grieve, reflect, and begin the path to healing.

A Space for Healing

The bereavement suite is part of a broader initiative to integrate maternal mental health support into the public healthcare system. It caters to mothers who have experienced miscarriages, stillbirths, neonatal deaths, or complications leading to postnatal depression.

For Gracious Katiyo, the suite became a vital part of her emotional recovery after losing her baby hours before she was due to deliver.

“When I was told my baby was no longer alive, I was devastated,” she shared. “After the stillbirth, I was referred to SALT for counselling. They walked me through the stages of grief and helped me prepare for the difficult conversations I would face back home. That emotional support made all the difference.”

Respinah Kareramombe also turned to the suite after her newborn developed a fatal infection. The trauma disrupted her milk production and led to emotional distress.

“Every mother wants to bond with her baby through breastfeeding. When my body stopped producing milk due to the stress, it worsened my mental health. It took me three months to recover,” she said.



Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals Mbuya Nehanda Maternity Hospital

A First for the Region

In 2024, SALT expanded its impact by establishing a second bereavement facility—a Grieving Room—at the Mbuya Nehanda Maternity Wing. The room offers counselling and emotional support for women in the immediate aftermath of pregnancy or neonatal loss.

Speaking at the official handover of the Bereavement Suite and Transition Ward, Dr. Maxmillan Dzowa, Acting Clinical Director at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals, praised the initiative as a landmark achievement.

“This is the first facility of its kind in Southern Africa and among the very few in Africa. It represents a crucial step forward in recognizing and addressing maternal mental health in Zimbabwe and beyond,” he said.

Dr. Dzowa emphasized the collaborative nature of the project, which involved the Ministry of Health and Child Care, the hospital leadership, mental health professionals, and community organizations. The project received financial support from the Zimbabwe German Society.

“Together, we are transforming how we care for mothers and families affected by pregnancy loss. This suite is not just a room—it

is a statement that every loss matters, and every mother deserves support,” he added.

The Broader Context

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), between 10% and 20% of women experience mental health issues during pregnancy or after childbirth. In Zimbabwe, estimates suggest one in four women may face such challenges, yet access to dedicated mental health services remains limited.

SALT Director Tafadzwa Meki explained the importance of creating safe spaces for grief and healing.

“This suite offers more than emotional support—it’s a sanctuary where families can begin to heal. It helps to normalize grief, break the silence, and promote healthy mental recovery,” she said.

She also highlighted the role of the Transition Ward, which provides care for women experiencing adverse birth outcomes, including medical support and psychological counselling.

“This isn’t a million-dollar project,” she noted, “but its value cannot be measured in dollars. It’s about restoring dignity, easing suffering, and placing maternal mental health where it belongs—at the center of care.”

Parirenyatwa, Egyptian medical teams achieve another feat in pediatric open heart surgery

A significant milestone in pediatric healthcare was reached in July with another successful camp of the open heart surgeries for children done at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals.

The operations were done by Parirenyatwa Hospital medical team alongside the visiting Egyptian medical specialists.

The initiative aims to provide life-saving heart surgeries to children in need, marking a profound collaboration in the realm of healthcare.

He said this while speaking to journalists during the operation of 10 children by a team of Egyptian and Zimbabwean surgeons milestones being achieved by the surgeons. All the operations were successful.

“First and foremost, I want to appreciate and commend our team, the local surgeons and the Egyptian surgeons, for what they are doing locally, because this is a major reduction, especially to our patients and our people, because before we were not doing this at open surgeries, so the moment we started, we have seen as the Ministry of Health and Government that we have moved a milestone ahead, such that all these major operations that we are witnessing here today are now being done locally,” he said. “We have seen our patients’ mothers who are in the wards, who were saying they were charged of 15,000 to 20,000USD to go to India for these operations, but now, as we have witnessed, that is now being done here and Zimbabwe is moving forward.”

Egyptian Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Ms. Salwa Mowafi said they will continually stand by Zimbabwe, supporting it in the medical fields.

“Yes, of course, definitely. We are, as I mentioned, the Egyptian government is highly committed, of course, for helping all the countries in Africa and, of course, our sister, Zimbabwe. It’s something that we are glad to just know the needs and we will be ready, of course, to share the experiences and the training and, if more, you see, we have here our team, a very renowned team from Egypt, headed by Prof. Hisham Shawky, who are here. “And many teams can come in order to share these experiences in many specialities here. And we are ready for that. Already, the Egyptian medicine is here in the government hospitals and whatever is needed here in Zimbabwe, we stand by your country and by the people of Zimbabwe for changing their lives,” she said.

Parirenyatwa head of cardiothoracic surgery department Dr. Simukayi Machawira, a key figure in this initiative, expressed his enthusiasm during an interview at the event. “This is our second surgical camp with the Egyptian team,” he stated, highlighting the pressing need for such interventions. “Initially, we were uncertain about our capabilities, but the success of the first camp in November 2024 has bolstered our confidence tremendously.”

The current camp provided 10 Zimba-



PGH hosted an appreciation tour of the successful Open Heart Surgeries by our surgeons and Egyptian surgeons graced by Deputy Minister of Health and Child Care Hon. Sleiman Kwidiini, Egypt’s Ambassador to Zimbabwe Ms. Salwa Mowafi alongside officials from Avenues Clinic, CIMAS, NOIC, Rotary Club of Harare Central, Gift of Life International



Deputy Minister of Health and Child Care Hon. Sleiman Kwidiini, Egypt’s Ambassador to Zimbabwe Ms. Salwa Mowafi and PGH Chief Medical Officer Dr Tsitsi Magure

wan children with crucial cardiac surgery a life-changing opportunity they may not have otherwise received for free.

The camp is facilitated by a coalition of esteemed organizations Gift of Life International, CIMAS Group, Avenues Clinic, National Oil Company of Zimbabwe (NOIC) and the Rotary Club of Harare Central. Dr. Machawira underscored the importance of these partnerships.

“The collaboration has not only brought experts to our shores but has also fostered a spirit of learning and capacity-building among local healthcare professionals. This is not just about performing surgeries; it’s about laying the groundwork for a sustainable cardiac care program in Zimbabwe.”

Dr. Hesham Shawky, the lead surgeon from Cairo University, shared his vision for the future of pediatric cardiac surgery in Zimbabwe. “Our primary aim is to establish a robust congenital

heart surgery program here, managed entirely by local healthcare providers,” he explained. “Training local surgeons, anesthetists, and perfusionists is a key part of our mission. We believe that empowering local teams is essential for the long-term success of this initiative.”

The pediatric open heart surgical camp at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals represents a crucial step forward in providing specialized care to Zimbabwean children suffering from congenital heart diseases. With dedicated efforts from both local and international teams, the hope is to create a self-sufficient medical program that will continue to save lives and inspire future generations of healthcare professionals in Zimbabwe.

Over 600 successful operations at Bright Journey Eye Camp

Over 600 patients from across Zimbabwe underwent cataract surgery at the Sekuru Kaguvi Eye Hospital within Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals this February.

This was under the Bright Journey Eye Camp where Chinese ophthalmologists together with local eye experts.

Officiating the launch of this eye camp, Health and Child Care Minister Dr Douglas Mombeshora said the Eye Camp fed into Zimbabwe's Eye Health Strategy.

He also commended the Chinese Government for donating over US\$820 000 in medicines and equipment.

"Let me begin by saluting our all-weather friends, the People's Republic of China, whose extraordinary contribution of US\$820,238.80 in equipment, medicines, and consumables has made this life-changing mission possible. In these challenging economic times, this generosity is greatly appreciated, reaffirming the timeless bond between our nations," he said.

"The Bright Journey project is a pillar in our National Eye Health Strategy 2021–2025, which prioritizes equitable access to quality eye care. Its significance runs deeper and I am pleased to announce that Sekuru Kaguvi Hospital, our nation's largest eye care facility, is being transformed into a regional centre of excellence with state-of-the-art tools donated by China, this hospital will now serve as a hub for innovation, training, and cutting-edge treatment—ensuring that Zimbabweans no longer need to travel abroad for advanced care."

Sekuru Kaguvi Eye Hospital head of ophthalmology Dr Boniface Macheke said the cataract surgeries began on February 24 they operated on 634 people.

"Great work and collaboration made this camp possible. I would like to acknowledge and appreciate the wonderful work we all rendered in the service of our people in collaboration with our Chinese friends.

"The final tally for the camp shall rise to 634 if all postponed patients (21) get done, so let's clap hands for all the hard work. I am sure God above shall remember your selfless services to your communities. Let's not tire from doing good.

"What I personally learnt from our Chinese colleagues is that they acknowledge, celebrate and appreciate their own. I feel it's high time we do the same," he said.

The then Chinese team leader Hong Xiuqin said they came with equipment, consumables and medication worth US\$820 000 which they shall donate to the Eye Hospital at Parirenyatwa.

"This year marks both the 45th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Zimbabwe and the 40th anniversary of bilateral medical cooperation. China has dispatched 12 medical experts, equipped with over \$820 000 worth of medical devices, instruments, and medications.

"Our team will utilize advanced cata-



During eye camp



Eye Camp team pose for a picture

ract surgical techniques to perform free surgeries for 600 Zimbabwean cataract patients, restoring vision and hope.

"Additionally, Chinese experts will engage in academic exchanges with Zimbabwean doctors' ophthalmologists, sharing expertise in cutting-edge cataract treatments to enhance local healthcare standards, and we hope this project will enhance the friendship

between China and Zimbabwe," she said. "The advanced equipment will be donated to this hospital. So, this will be used in the future and also provide more services, high quality of services to the local people. We hope that in the future, we have more cooperation between the two governments and especially for the medical cooperation."

PGH In Collaboration With Hunan Provincial People's Hospital In Changsha, China Establishes A State-Of-The-Art Telemedicine and Education Centre

It is all systems go for the launch of the Telemedicine and Education Centre at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals, a pioneering initiative aimed at revolutionizing healthcare delivery in Zimbabwe.

The centre was set up in collaboration with Hunan Provincial People's Hospital In Changsha.

It will be providing services such as follow-ups, provider to provider teleconsultations to mention but these. With Telemedicine, the client can consult with the doctor remotely. Distance is no longer a barrier.

Our Centre is dedicated to harnessing the power of telemedicine to improve patient care and outcomes, leveraging local policies and available resources to make a meaningful impact.

Our initial focus will be on two critical areas, 1) telemedicine follow-ups, 2) provider-to-provider teleconsultations between hospitals within and outside the country.

By starting small and scaling up gradually, we will refine our services, incorporate more departments, and expand our reach to make telemedicine one of the cornerstones of our healthcare system.



DR YVET TURUGARI HEALTH INFORMATICS SPECIALIST,
HEAD OF TELEMEDICINE AND EDUCATION CENTRE

Telemedicine Follow-ups

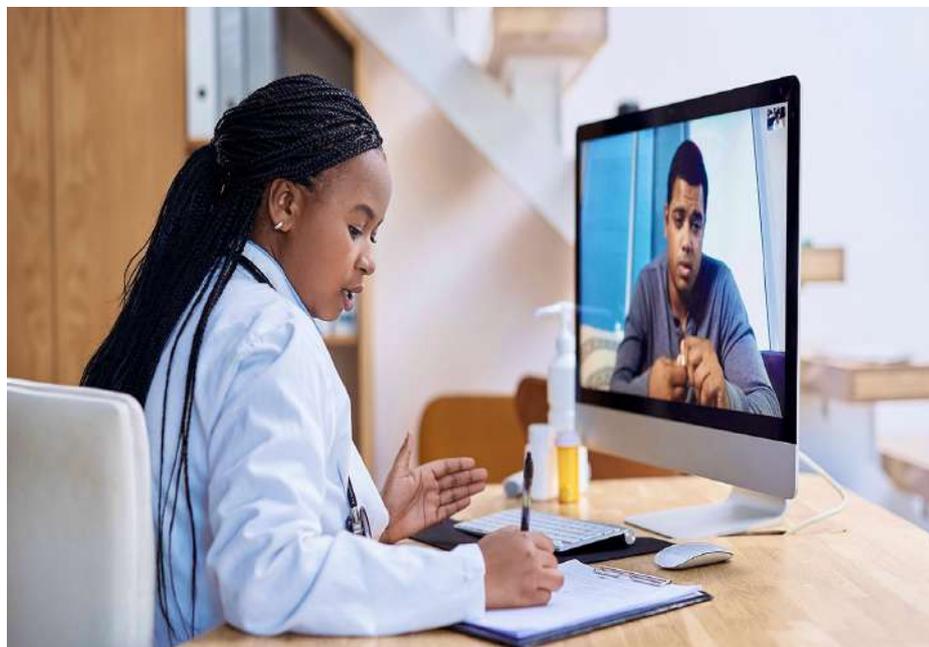
Our Centre will enable patients to receive timely and convenient follow-up care through the virtual consultations, reducing the need for physical visits to the hospital. This will be particularly beneficial for patients with chronic conditions, those living in remote areas and those with mobility challenges.

Provider-To-Provider Teleconsultations

We will facilitate seamless communication and collaboration between healthcare providers across different hospitals, both locally and internationally. This will enable our medical teams to offer expert opinions, seek other expert opinions, share knowledge and make informed decisions, ultimately leading to better patient outcomes. Our provider-to-provider teleconsultations will foster a culture of collaboration, ensuring that our healthcare providers are always up-to-date with the latest medical practices and guidelines.

Leveraging Local Policies and Resources

We are committed to aligning our services with local policies and leveraging available resources to ensure sustainability and scalability. Our Centre will work closely with the



Telemedicine in practice

Ministry of Health and Child Care, health providers, and other stakeholders to ensure that our telemedicine services are integrated into the existing healthcare system.

The Telemedicine and Education Centre at Parirenyatwa Group of Hospitals is poised to revolutionize healthcare delivery in Zimbabwe. By harnessing the power of

telemedicine, we will improve patient care and outcomes, increase access to specialized services with reduction in transport costs and enhance the overall quality of life for our patients. We look forward to working with all stakeholders to make this vision a reality.



PGH Netball team



Food services supervisors sharing a lighter moment at the Food service staff awards



Dr Kanyepi



PGH cleanup day



PGH Band



PGH Chief Medical Officer Dr Tsitsi Magure visits children



Deputy Health and Child Care Minister Dr Kwidini with Egyptians, PGH officials and sponsors