

Tygerberg Academic Hospital Information Pamphlet 2009/10

Cape Town, South Africa

Background information

In 1956 there were only three medical schools in South Africa and there was a concern that this was insufficient for training adequate medical staff. Proposals were made to establish a fourth medical school and it was felt that Stellenbosch University would be best to support the fourth medical faculty.

Karl Bremer Hospital was initially used as the tertiary hospital for practical aspects of training. This small hospital was, however, hopelessly inadequate and in 1963 work began on the new Tygerberg Hospital and associated dental hospital, faculty buildings, 2 nursing colleges, nurses and doctors' residences, workshops, laundries, crèches, research facilities for animals, parking for cars, all covering an area of 100 hectares.

Our facilities

- Officially opened during 1976
- Teaching hospital for the Faculty Health Sciences, University of Stellenbosch; University of the Western Cape; Cape Peninsula University of Technology
- Annual budget of R 1,269 million (2009 – 2010 financial year)

Designed for 1 899 beds, but presently has 1 310 active beds, including:

- 308 bed Tygerberg Children's hospital
- Day surgery unit
- Private patients unit
- Other buildings on the premises include the medical faculty a dental faculty, residence for nurses, students and doctors, a laundry, engineering building, administration building, research facilities, centre for deaf children, training centre and accessory services such as a bank and post office

Our patients

Over 3.6 million people receive health care from Tygerberg, either directly or via its secondary hospitals, such as Paarl and Worcester Hospital. Annual patient statistics:

- More than 90 747 patients are admitted and more than 500 000 out patients visit the hospital annually
- Average length of stay 6.5
- Average occupancy 71.6%
- Operations 25878

Our people

During the normal working day there are about 10 000 people on our hospital grounds.

That includes staff, visitors and students.

There are more than 4 000 staff including

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|--------------------|---|-------------|
| • Nursing | : | 1 265 |
| • Medical | : | 873 |
| • Health Science | : | 218 |
| • Administration | : | 591 |
| • Support Services | : | 1 084 |
| • Total | : | 4031 |

Our services

A full range of general specialist and sub specialist services include:

- Carel du Toit Centre for the Hearing Impaired
- Centre for Mental Health
- Clinical Nutrition and Vitaminology Service
- Clinical Retinal Laboratory
- Cochlear Implant Unit
- Complex Craniofacial Surgery Unit
- Department of Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Complex Radiation and Oncological Therapy
- Day Surgery Unit
- In-vitro Fertilisation
- Kidney Transplant Unit
- Laboratory for Human Genetics
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Neuropsychiatry Unit
- Open Heart Surgery Unit
- Perinatal Mortality Unit
- Poison Information Centre
- Postnatal Stress Disorder Unit
- Specialised Pulmonary Function Laboratory
- Tuberculosis Clinical Work Unit
- TygerBear Unit – Social Work Unit
- MRI with fMRI facility and additional 3t MRI machine
- Oncology
- Only Adult Burns Unit in the Western Cape
- Hyperbaric Oxygen facility
- 26 bed Private Ward

These services provide for advanced health care to all patients, as well as training of large numbers of doctors (under-and postgraduate) and all other types of clinical staff.