



Bringing Hope to Patients: ASH Mandela Week Surgical Marathon 2024

Pretoria, South Africa – 25 July 2024 – In a heartwarming display of compassion and dedication, over 100 doctors including 40 specialists came together to perform critical medical procedures for patients who have been on waiting lists for months, and some for years, years without receiving the help they desperately needed. This collaborative effort was part of African Synergy Health’s (ASH) Mandela Day drive, embodying the spirit of service and community that Nelson Mandela championed.

The ASH Mandela Week Surgical Marathon brought together skilled professionals who volunteered their time and expertise. This initiative not only eased the suffering of many patients but also showed the power of collective action in addressing critical healthcare challenges.

Dr. Viola Morolo, Founder and Chief Director of ASH, said, “The ASH Mandela Week Surgical is a growing movement demonstrating the power of Synergy in collaborations. Working with our partners the National Department of Health and Provincial governments and our sponsors, we are on a journey to realizing our vision of zero patients on elective surgical waiting lists in public hospitals starting with Urology and General Surgery in South Africa then expanding to other Surgical disciplines and the rest of Africa.”

During the ASH Mandela Week Surgical Marathon 2024, 168 surgeries were performed in Gauteng and the Eastern Cape provinces.

In Gauteng Province (5, 15-19 July 2024), we partnered with Steve Biko Academic Hospital, Dr. George Mukhari Academic Hospital, Urology Hospital, and Advanced Health Groenkloof to perform critical medical procedures. We aimed to complete surgeries for 67 patients and proudly exceeded this by completing 75 surgeries, including:

- Robot-assisted laparoscopic radical prostatectomies
- Laparoscopic nephrectomies
- Laparoscopic sacrocolpopexies
- Laparoscopic varicocelectomies
- Laparoscopic cholecystectomies
- Laparoscopic hernia repairs
- Hydrocoelectomies
- HOLEPS for BPH
- URS Laser
- Hypospadias repair
- Rezum
- Circumcisions
- Radical mastectomies

In Eastern Cape (8 – 12 July 2024), we partnered with Frere Hospital, Cecilia Makiwane Hospital, Cure Day Beacon Bay, Life Beacon Bay, and Royal Buffalo Specialist Hospital. We set a target to complete surgeries for 67 patients and exceeded it by successfully completing 93 surgeries, including:

- PCNL
- Hydrocoelectomies



- URS Laser
- Laparoscopic cholecystectomies
- Laparoscopic hernia repairs
- Rezum
- Circumcisions
- Bilateral orchidectomies
- DVIU
- Laparoscopic orchidopexy
- Intravesical botox
- Vasectomies
- Epididymectomy
- Urethroplasties
- Meatoplasty
- VVF repair
- Urethral diverticuli
- TURPs

Looking Ahead

The ongoing success of the ASH Surgical Marathons, 1 province (Gauteng) participating in the Inaugural ASH Mandela Week Surgical in 2023 and 2 provinces (Gauteng and The Eastern Cape) participating in 2024, demonstrates the value of public private partnerships in addressing health challenges through synergising our resources. We are set to expand to 5 provinces in 2025.

About African Synergy Health

Our vision is to achieve zero patients on elective surgical waiting lists within the public sector hospitals initially in Urology and General Surgery. Achieving this will provide a model that will be the blueprint to expanding to other surgical disciplines and countries in Africa.

For more information about African Synergy Health and our ongoing initiatives, please visit <https://africansynergyhealth.com/>

For media inquiries, please contact:

Phenyo Mongale
+27 78 499 7510
phenyo.mongale@etioncreate.co.za

Acknowledgements

The ASH Board of Directors extends heartfelt thanks to our sponsors for their invaluable support:

- National Department of Health
- Gauteng Provincial Government



- Eastern Cape Department of Health
- Medhold
- Medtronic
- Vertice Urology
- Urology Hospital
- Boston Scientific
- Marcus Medical
- Cure Day Hospital
- Wismed
- EMS (Event Management Solutions)
- NuAngle
- Advanced Health Groenkloof
- PPS
- Freedom of Movement
- Royal Buffalo Specialist Hospital
- Dahlhausen
- Storz
- Ampath Laboratories
- Serengeti Estate
- Life Beacon Bay
- CSG
- DISA Life Sciences
- Doppio Zero
- CJ Distribution
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- Stryker

Synergizing public and private resources to realize our vision.