Event Announcement:

Multi-faceted community healthcare hub launched at Bellville Taxi Rank

30 November 2019: The Cipla Foundation, in collaboration with the Greater Tygerberg Partnership, is launching a new community-based healthcare hub at the Bellville taxi rank that will provide primary healthcare services, eyecare and a chronic medicine pick-up point to the scores of commuters that pass through this area on a daily basis.

Paul Miller, CEO of Cipla Medpro, said: “This Bellville healthcare hub comprises an eyecare unit; a Chronic Dispensing Unit (CDU) pick-up point and a double nursing surgery – with capacity to treat 80 patients per day - that will be managed and run by Mandisa Swart, a qualified nurse with more than 10 years’ experience who is part of Cipla Foundation’s Sha’p Left initiative. Sha’p Left is a containerised healthcare solution developed by the Cipla Foundation.

“The convenient CDU allows patients on chronic medication to collect their medication at the hub while in transit to work or going home. The eyecare facility has been established with the help of well-known optometrists who were looking for an opportunity to get involved in community initiatives, and we felt that it was a good fit to include this group in the Bellville project,” said Miller.

The Greater Tygerberg Partnership CEO, Warren Hewitt, says there is a dire need for a centrally-located primary healthcare unit in the Bellville CBD. “The Bellville central business district is densely populated, with commuters making over 400 000 trips each day. While there are over 250 medical facilities in the area, the volume of people means that the existing healthcare facilities and clinics are already operating at capacity. We therefore wanted to introduce a new facility that could be rolled out quickly, and which could service the basic healthcare needs of a significant number of patients, offering a fee-for-service option to patients.

“Sha’p Left”s containerised healthcare solution is ideal for our needs in the Bellville area as it has a fast turnaround time with regards to deployment (two weeks) and also offers flexibility to expand the operation as needed in the future.”

The hub also offers a range of primary healthcare consultations as well as services such as family planning, woman’s health and basic disease management.
Dan Plato, Executive Mayor of Cape Town said: “As a Caring City, the City of Cape Town recognises the right of every citizen to access health care when they need it. The Sha’p Left initiative complements the services already provided by city healthcare facilities. We welcome the contributions made by private companies and organisations who have assisted in this initiative in the Bellville CBD.”

Site manager and on-duty nurse at the healthcare hub, Mandisa Swart, said, about her role there: “While I was working at various different government clinics, I realised that there is a really big gap to fill in terms of providing healthcare services. Patients often cannot be seen at a time and a place that is convenient for them. This healthcare hub fills that gap because it is situated in a convenient area and patients can make appointments for a time that suits them. I have always had a passion for starting my own business and I believe that this will allow me to make a massive difference in my own life and in the Bellville community,” says Miller says that the central location of the Bellville healthcare hub provides patients with convenient access to quality healthcare without disrupting their daily lives. “We chose this site specifically because it is at a transport node with incredibly high volumes of people passing through on their way to and from work. This facility enables people to quickly pick up their chronic medication or have a healthcare consultation without having to go out of their way or take time off from their jobs.

“The Bellville healthcare hub is the latest in our ongoing efforts to make healthcare accessible to all South Africans in keeping with our ethos of Caring for Life,” said Miller.

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**About the Cipla Foundation in South Africa:**

The Cipla Foundation South Africa (“the Foundation”), a registered Non-Profit Organisation, was founded in 2006. The vision and focus of the Foundation resonates strongly with the United National Sustainable Development Goals and the South African Government’s National Development Plan (NDP), which aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030.

The Foundation prides itself with providing innovative, cost-effective sustainable solutions to communities around South Africa. The foundations key focuses are;

1) Cleft surgeries through Miles for Smiles initiative
2) Accredited sustainable enterprise driven Early Childhood Development campuses in peri-urban areas through their Ajuga initiative
3) Primary healthcare interventions - nurse driven enterprises providing primary healthcare to communities through the Sha’p left initiative
4) Chronic medicine pick-up-point in partnership with the National Department of Health. For more information, visit: [http://ciplafounsationsa.co.za/](http://ciplafounsationsa.co.za/)

**About Cipla:**
Established in 1935, Cipla is a global pharmaceutical company focused on agile and sustainable growth, complex generics, and deepening portfolio in our home markets of India, South Africa, North America, and key regulated and emerging markets. Our strengths in the respiratory, anti-retroviral, urology, cardiology and CNS segments are well-known. Our 44 manufacturing sites around the world produce 50+ dosage forms and 1,500+ products using cutting-edge technology platforms to cater to our 80+ markets. Cipla is ranked 3rd largest in pharma in India (IQVIA MAT Sept’18), 3rd largest in the pharma private market in South Africa (IQVIA YTD Aug’18), and is among the most dispensed generic players in the US. For over eight decades, making a difference to patients has inspired every aspect of Cipla’s work. Our paradigm-changing offer of a triple anti-retroviral therapy in HIV/AIDS at less than a dollar a day in Africa in 2001 is widely acknowledged as having contributed to bringing inclusiveness, accessibility and affordability to the centre of the movement. A responsible corporate citizen, Cipla’s humanitarian approach to healthcare in pursuit of its purpose of ‘Caring for Life’ and deep-rooted community links wherever it is present make it a partner of choice to global health bodies, peers and all stakeholders. For more, please visit [www.cipla.com](http://www.cipla.com), or click on [Twitter](https://twitter.com), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com).

**About Cipla in South Africa:**
Cipla Medpro South Africa (Pty) Limited is the third largest pharmaceutical manufacturer in the country. Through Cipla’s ethos of ‘Caring for Life’, Cipla Medpro produces world-class medicines at affordable prices for the public and private sectors, advancing healthcare for all South Africans. For more information, visit [https://www.cipla.co.za/](https://www.cipla.co.za/).

**About the Greater Tygerberg Partnership:**
The Greater Tygerberg Partnership (GTP) is a not-for-profit company, established in August 2012 with a mandate to make the Bellville CBD and Greater Tygerberg region one of most inclusive, vibrant and economically prosperous areas to live, work, invest and play in Cape Town. The GTP is focused on three key goals, which are to: stimulate a 24-hour economy; build physically and virtually connected communities; and facilitate an urban transition to an inclusive, vibrant and economically prosperous area.

The GTP is a partnership between private, public, academic and civil society.
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