

## *Redaksionele Kommentaar / Editorial Comment*

In hierdie uitgawe van HEALTH SA GESONDHEID word die klem geplaas op die belang van kommunikasie in die gesondheidsdienslewering stelsel. Verskillende artikels bied verskillende dimensies van kommunikasie as kuns en vaardigheid. Deur kommunikasie dra die professionele persoon oor dat hy/sy omgee en 'n pasiënt se gemak bevorder. Deur kommunikasie kan geestesgesondheid by mense bevorder word deur die aanbieding van 'n verrykingsprogram. Babatjies se gesondheid word bevorder in 'n neonatale intensieve eenheid deur middel van aanraking en verbale kommunikasie. Vroegtydige identifisering van doofheid by babas lei daar toe dat kommunikasie bevorder word en die baba gehelp kan word om sy/haar volle potensiaal te ontwikkel. Kommunikasie vind ook plaas deur middel van gesondheidsonderrig om lewensbedreigende siektes te voorkom. Dit is duidelik dat kommunikasie 'n kernaspek uitmaak in die gesondheidsdienslewering stelsel. Oop kommunikasie is belangrik tussen multiprofessionele spanlede en ook tussen die gesondheidsdienslede en hulle pasiënte. Deur kommunikasie kan mens se strewe na gesondheid gefasiliteer word.

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In this edition of HEALTH SA GESONDHEID the focus is on the importance of communication in the health service delivery system. Various articles provides various dimensions of communication - communication as art and skill. The professional person expresses his/her caring through communication as well as that he/she wants to promote a patient's comfort. Mental health can be promoted in people through the presentation of an enrichment programme. Babies' health is promoted in a neonatal intensive care unit through touch and verbal communication. Early identification of deafness in babies leads to promotion of communication and assistance to the baby to develop optimal potential. Communication also occurs through health education to prevent life threatening illness. It is clear that communication is a core aspect in the health service delivery system. Open communication between multiprofessional team members and also between the health service delivery members and their patients is also important. A person's quest for health can be facilitated through communication.

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