

Minister Motsoaledi is determined to transform SA's healthcare system - #NHI

27 June 2016

CapeTalk's Africa Melane speaks to Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi following a piece he wrote in the Sunday Times explaining the health department's vision for the National Health Insurance (NHI).

Speaking to Melane, Motsoaledi says he wrote the article to the Sunday Times to counter the scare tactics caused by a group of people which, he says, they have been able to identify. He says he wants South Africans to be apprised of the facts, and not to be fearful of the new system.

Motsoaledi says NHI is a significant policy shift that will necessitate a massive reorganisation of the public health system, both public and private.

We are agreeing that there are some things that needs to be changed in the public and private health care in order for NHI to happen.

— *Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Health*

He says the two most important things that needs to be changed:

- The exorbitant fees in the private health care
- The quality of the public health system

Whether we said it in the past is neither here nor there. The thing is, we are determined now that we have to change it

— *Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Health*

In NHI we are saying there is public health care system in South Africa and there is private, and the public needs to be able to utilise both because both of them have resources of the country

— *Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Health*

80% of the specialists in this country are in private health care serving only 16% of the population. We want the rest of the population to have access to those specialists.

— *Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Health*