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# Durban's new bastion of healthcare excellence opens its doors

DURBAN'S brand new state-of-the-art private hospital has opened its doors and with it, ushered in a new era of world-class healthcare for all – irrespective of ethnicity, gender, race or religion.

Ahmed Al-Kadi Private Hospital, located on King Cetshwayo Highway in Mayville, was officially opened on Friday, March 31 by eThekweni Deputy Mayor, Fawzia Peer together with the hospital's board of directors.

Built at a cost of R500 million, the ultra modern and luxurious 164-bed healthcare facility is the culmination of an eight-year-long dream for the Islamic Medical Association in South Africa (Imasa).

Speaking to the Sunday Tribune prior to the hospital's launch, Solly Suleman, one of the key drivers of the project and chairman of the hospital board, explained: "It's no secret that the private health sector in KZN is seriously overstretched."

"What we aimed to do was to help fill that health service shortfall with a hospital that had state-of-the-art equipment, a team of dedicated, specialist doctors and nurses, and catered for patients no matter their race or religion."

The driving force was Imasa's mission to assist and support those unable to finance their ongoing health care. It's a legacy that embodies the work of the hospital's namesake, Dr Ahmed Al-Kadi, an Egyptian-born cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon who dedicated his life of Islamic institutions in the US, focusing on the needs of the underprivileged. Al-Kadi travelled to South Africa several times, helping to establish Imasa in 1979. Passionate about Islamic medicine, he had always dreamed of having an Islamic hospital – a dream that has now been realised with the hospital's opening.

But to turn the dream into reality, Suleman and his fellow directors had to think out of the box. "Charity hospitals are not sustainable, so we had to come up with a unique operational formula." The result is that Imasa's Baytul Nur Trust owns 26% of the shares and private investors the rest.

Using this model, the hospital could be run on a private fee-paying basis equivalent to other private healthcare facilities, while the needs of the poor could be addressed adequately.

"It is one of those sad realities that



L-R: Anwar Moosa, Dep Mayor Fawzia Peer, Solly Suleman, Dr MC Solwa, Dr AYD Moosa, Sr Haniefa Allee.



chronic kidney patients requiring long-term dialysis are often sent home to die because of a lack of resources and funding.

"With our model being sustainable in the long term, we are able to set up renal facilities for those who cannot afford to pay for their treatment."

"With the funds raised, we can also provide professionally staffed clinics for families, focusing on things such as diabetes, nutrition and child care. We hope this model will be adopted elsewhere. There are so many who need urgent treatment and cannot afford it. "We have had great support from government and provincial health leaders, which has really helped us to get off the ground."

**World-class facilities**

Ahmed Al-Kadi Private Hospital employs 288 staff, many from the local

community, while its doctors have been "head-hunted" from around the province and are among the best in their fields. The hospital will promote an Islamic ethos, but will serve patients irrespective of race, religion or culture. As such, it aims to cater to all dietary types, with vegetarian meals being prepared separately.

**The hospital's leading facilities include:**

- 24-hour emergency casualty unit
- four surgical theatres
- medical wards
- surgical ward
- paediatric ward
- private wards
- general wards
- maternity ward
- neonatal intensive care unit
- intensive care unit
- high care unit
- renal dialysis

- pathology
- musallah (prayer facility).
- Other, unique operational features include:
  - The provision of Halaal food to ensure Muslim patients need not fear cross-contamination.
  - The use of patient attire that adequately covers the body.
  - Medical and surgical wards split into male and female only wards.
  - On-site ghusl khana (body wash area for the deceased).
  - Preventative medication to maintain well-being and prevent disease, disability and death.

**Board**

Ahmed Al-Kadi Private Hospital's board of directors consists of SGH Suleman, Dr MC Solwa, Dr AKC Peer, Dr AYD Moosa, AH Moosa, Dr IE Osman and Fathima Lockhat.



L-R: Dr AYD Moosa, Dr MC Solwa, Dr AKC Peer, Mr SGH Suleman, Mr AH Moosa, Dr IE Osman.

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**Siemens Healthineers congratulates Ahmed Al-Kadi Private Hospital and Drs Perumal and Partners on the official opening of their hospital.**

As their proud medical technology partner, we wish them continued success in the new facility.

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**Congratulations to Ahmed Al Kadi on their official opening**

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**CONGRATULATIONS to AHMED AL KADI HOSPITAL on their official opening!**

We are proud to have been part of the project from inception to completion

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Stiegelmeyer Africa and Germany wish to congratulate **Ahmed Al-Kadi Private Hospital** on its grand opening - definitely a new gold standard in facilities and care.

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Congratulations to all stakeholders on the successful opening of the **Ahmed Al-Kadi Hospital**.  
The IES team wishes you a successful journey.

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**CONGRATULATIONS to Ahmed Al Kadi on their official opening!**