



Kingdom of Lesotho



Statistical Report

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2019 HEALTH STATISTICS



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Mission: To coordinate the National Statistical System (NSS) and produce accurate, timely and reliable culturally relevant and internationally comparable statistical data for evidence-based planning, decision making, research, policy, program formulation and monitoring and to satisfy the needs of users and producers.

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List of Acronyms

| | |
|------|---|
| MOH | Ministry of Health |
| HPSU | Health Planning and Statistics Unit |
| GOL | Government of Lesotho |
| CHAL | Christian Health Association of Lesotho |
| BOS | Bureau of Statistics |

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Health Statistics is analyzed based on yearly information collected from planning unit of the Ministry of Health (MoH). The data used in this report was extracted from the District Health Information System(DHIS2) application compiled by Health Planning and Statistics Unit (HPSU). The data covers the daily reporting of the following aspects of health; inpatients, outpatients and discharges. The 2019 data collected from the MoH is recompiled and analyzed then a report is published by the Bureau of Statistics (BOS).

1.2 Data Coverage

The data utilized in this report is secondary data from the MoHs'DHIS2 tables of 2019 collected from the 18General Hospitals¹ of which nine (9) belong to the Government of Lesotho (GoL) and the other nine (9) belong to Christian Health Association of Lesotho (CHAL). The following; Berea, Botha-Bothe, Machabeng, Mafeteng, Makoanyane Military, Mokhotlong, Motebang, Ntšekhe and Quthing all belong to the Government of Lesotho. The ninth Hospital is Mohlomi which did not report completely for 2019. Hence, Maluti, Mamohau, Paray, Scott, Seboche, St James, St. Joseph's and Tebellow hospitals belong to CHAL. Secondly from the Health Facilities² that report to MOH on monthly basis with regard to the work or mandates provided, the facilities are estimated at 178country wide.

1.3 Data Limitations

Not all hospitals which were operating in the previous years captured data during the year2019.

- Tebellow hospital is one such that had not been capturing the data for inpatients hence why there is no analysis for inpatients admissions for this hospital.
- The analysed statistical tables exclude reports from privately owned facilities as some of them do not report their activities or performance to MOH.

1.4 Methodology

The absolute numbers and percentages were used in tables and graphs to describe patients with various diseases. Proportions have been used to show occurrence of different diseases in geographical areas by sex and age of the patients.

¹ A non-specialised hospital, treating patients suffering from all types of medical condition

² Any location where healthcare is provided regardless of the size of place or service provided e.g small clinics, private clinics, government hospitals, CHAL hospitals etc.

2.0 Inpatients

An inpatient is a patient who stays in a hospital or clinic while receiving medical care or treatment (www.dictionary.com). This section discusses inpatient admissions by hospital, sex and age-group.

2.1 Inpatient Admissions in General Hospitals

The number and percentage distribution of inpatient admissions by different general hospitals for the year of 2019 is illustrated in Table 1.0. The table shows that there was a total of 18,336 inpatient admissions in 2019. The majority of inpatients in 2019 were admitted in Motebang hospital constituting 16.7 percent and the second highest admission of inpatients was in Scott Hospital with 11.3 percent. Botha-Bothe hospital had the least proportions of inpatients with 0.3 percent.

Table 1.0: Number and Percentage Distribution of Inpatient Admissions by General Hospital, 2019

| Hospital | Number (n) | Percent(%) |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Berea | 291 | 1.6 |
| Botha-Bothe | 50 | 0.3 |
| Machabeng | 399 | 2.2 |
| Mafeteng | 2,020 | 10.9 |
| Makoanyane Military | 525 | 2.8 |
| Maluti | 711 | 3.9 |
| Mamohau Mission | 713 | 3.9 |
| Mokhotlong | 1,073 | 5.8 |
| Motebang | 3,076 | 16.7 |
| Ntsekhe | 1,851 | 10.0 |
| Paray | 1,666 | 9.0 |
| Quthing | 1,196 | 6.5 |
| Scott Mission | 2,082 | 11.3 |
| Seboche | 1,095 | 5.9 |
| St James Mission | 378 | 2.0 |
| St Josephs | 1,210 | 6.6 |
| Total | 18,336 | 100 |

2.2 Sex of Admitted Inpatients in General Hospital

The sex of the inpatients was considered in order to establish how many males and females were admitted in different hospitals in the country in 2019. The distribution in number of inpatient admissions by hospital and sex is presented in Table 2.0. The table shows that across the hospitals, females had the largest number of inpatients than their male counterparts constituting 10,329 and 8,007 respectively thus reflecting differences in health seeking behavior among males and females.

Table 2.0: Number and Percentage Distribution of Inpatient Admissions by Hospital and Sex, 2019

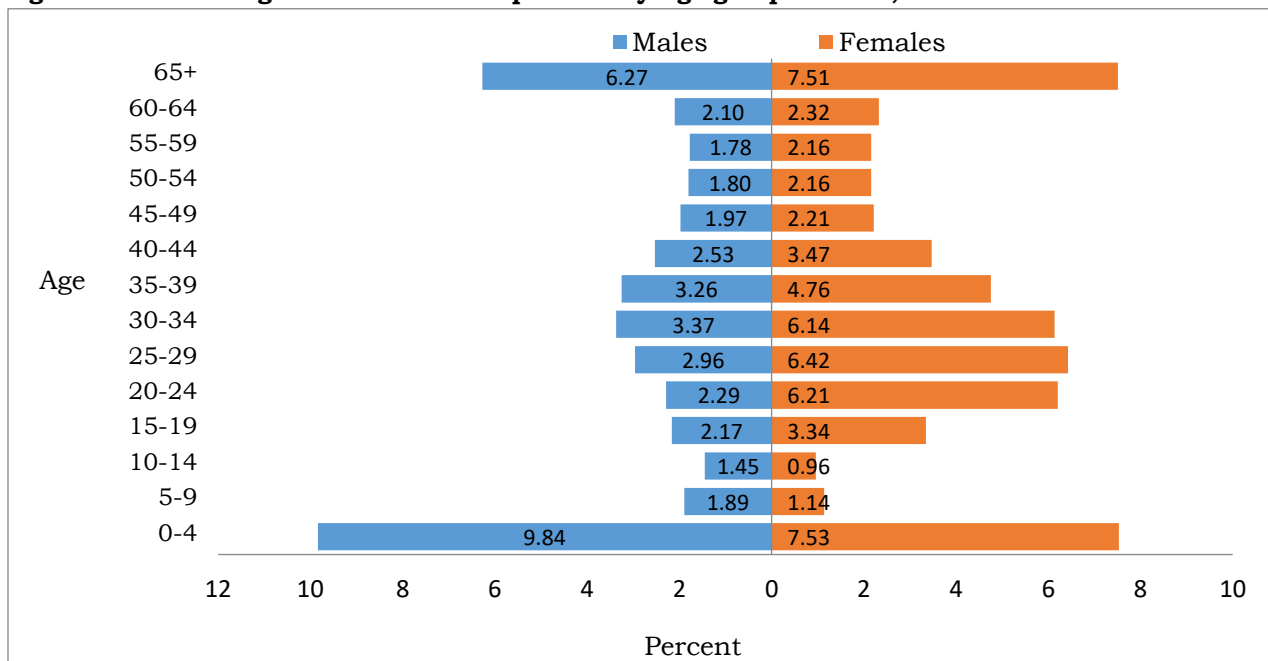
| Hospital | Female | Male | Total |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Berea | 219 | 72 | 291 |
| Botha-Bothe | 42 | 8 | 50 |
| Machabeng | 214 | 185 | 399 |
| Mafeteng | 1,113 | 907 | 2,020 |
| Makoanyane Military | 300 | 225 | 525 |
| Maluti | 402 | 309 | 711 |
| Mamohau Mission | 347 | 366 | 713 |
| Mokhotlong | 526 | 547 | 1,073 |
| Motebang | 1,739 | 1,337 | 3,076 |
| Ntsekhe | 954 | 897 | 1,851 |
| Paray | 863 | 803 | 1,666 |
| Quthing | 647 | 549 | 1,196 |
| Scott Mission | 1,348 | 734 | 2,082 |
| Seboche | 611 | 484 | 1,095 |
| St James Mission | 208 | 170 | 378 |
| St Josephs | 796 | 414 | 1,210 |
| Total | 10,329 | 8,007 | 18,336 |

2.3 Age and Sex of Admitted Inpatient

Age is one of the most important demographic variables used in population statistics to determine age categories of people in relation to social services. Figure 1.0 displays the percentage distribution of inpatients by age group and sex. It shows that 9.8 percent of male inpatients were in the 0 to 4 age group while the least was in the 10 to 14 age group with an estimate of 1.5 percent. However, regarding the female inpatients the highest was observed for the 0 to 4 age group estimated at 7.53 percent. This was followed closely by those aged 65 years and above with 7.51 percent and the least proportion of inpatients was in the 10 to 14 age group at 0.96.

An overall observation relating to Figure 1.0 indicates that there were more female than male inpatients in general hospitals in 2019.

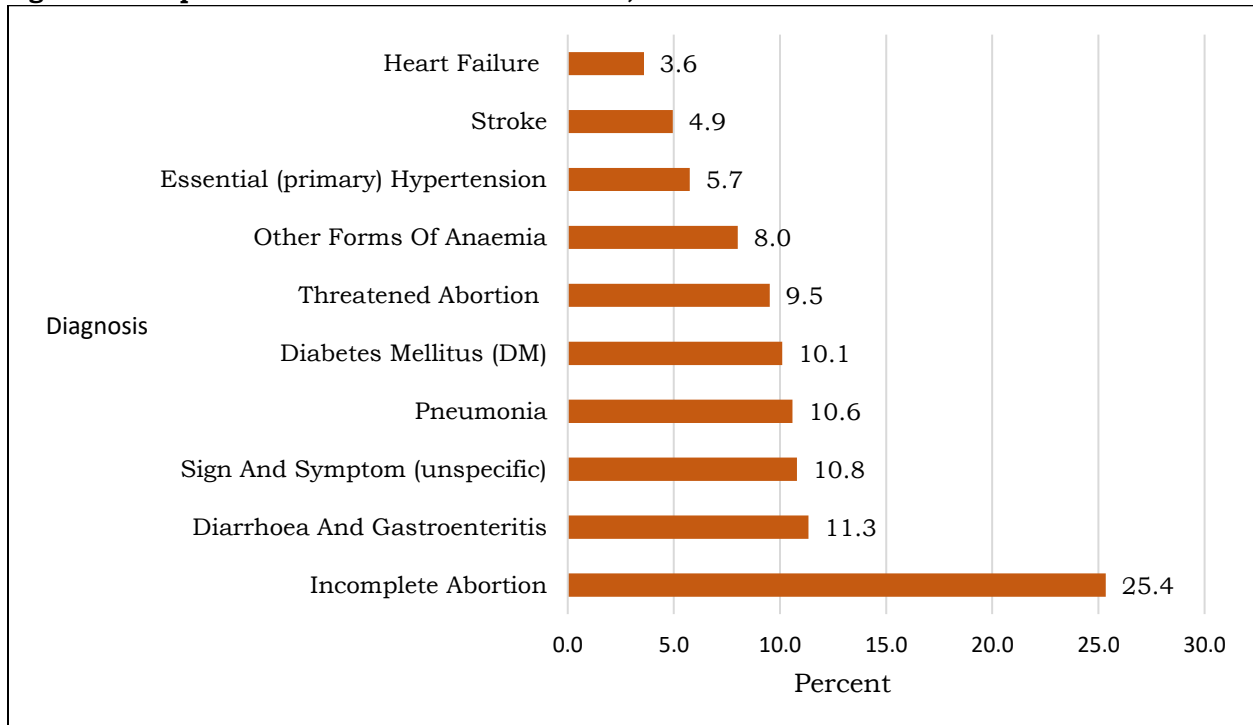
Figure 1.0: Percentage Distribution of Inpatients by Age group and Sex, 2019



2.4A Top Ten Causes of Female Admissions

Admissions for females were due to various illnesses and the top ten causes of female admissions into hospitals were; Incomplete abortion, Diarrhea and gastroenteritis, Sign and Symptom (Unspecified), Pneumonia, Diabetes Mellitus (DM), Threatened Abortion, Other Forms of Anemia, Essential (primary) hypertension, Stroke and Heart Failure. Figure 2.0 portrays the percentage distribution of the top ten causes of female admissions. Most females were admitted due to incomplete abortion accounting for 25.4 percent while the smallest percentage of admissions was due to Heart Failure represented by 3.6 percent.

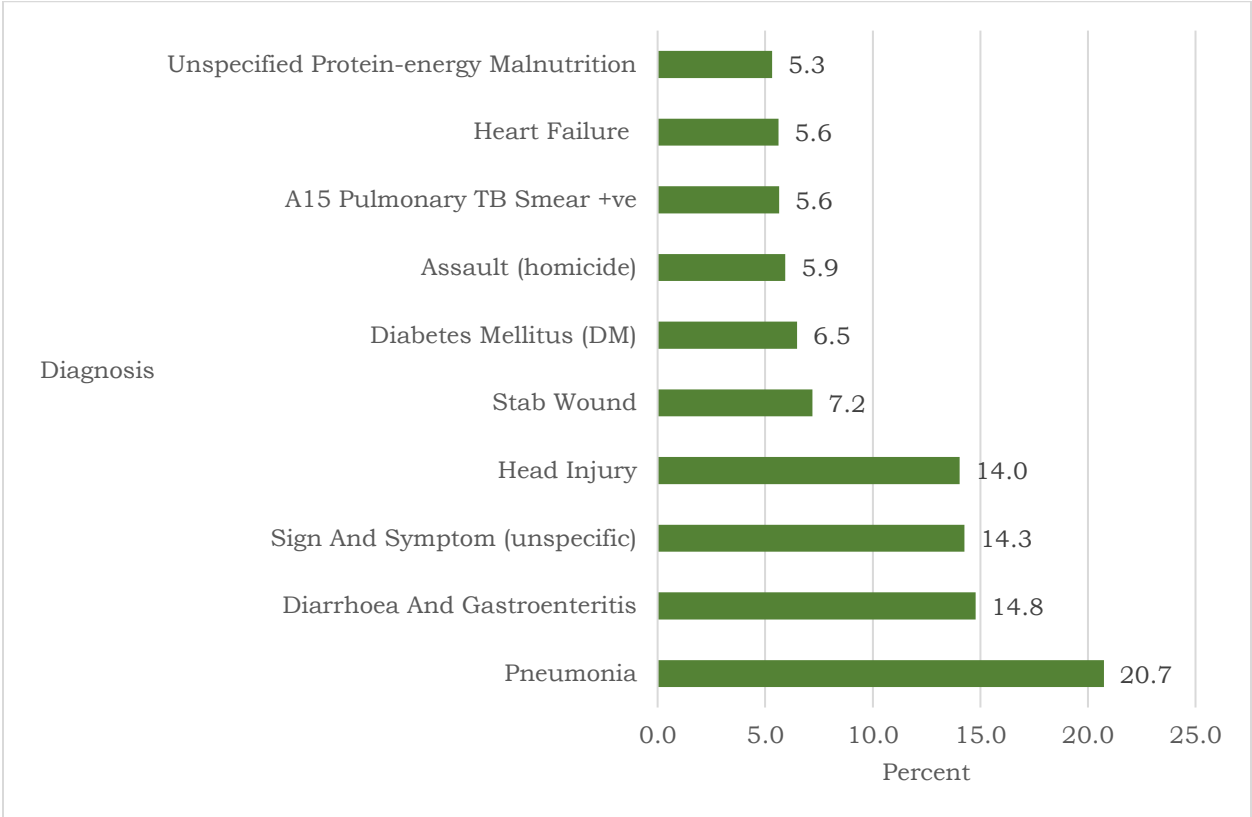
Figure 2.0: Top Ten Causes of Female Admissions, 2019



2.4B Top ten causes of Male Admissions

Males were also admitted in hospitals due to various illnesses. The data reflects that the main causes of male admissions in hospitals were; Pneumonia, Diarrhea and gastroenteritis, Signs and Symptoms (unspecific), Head injury, Stab Wound, Assault (homicide), A15 Pulmonary TB Smear positive, Heart failure and Unspecified Protein-energy Malnutrition. The percentage distribution of the top ten causes of male admissions is illustrated in Figure 3.0. The figure shows that the main cause of male admissions was Pneumonia accounting for 20.7 percent.

Figure 3.0: Top Ten Causes of Male Admissions, 2019



3.0 OUTPATIENTS

An outpatient is a patient who is not hospitalized overnight but who visits a hospital, clinic, or associated facility for diagnosis or treatment (www.merriam-webster.com 2020). This section focuses on the number of outpatients in health facilities during the year 2019. A total of 1,503,604 outpatients were visited the health care facility across the country for various illnesses while 257,173 outpatients were attended only at general hospitals. The outpatients observed at health care facility for various illnesses constituting 79.8 percent, were new outpatient attendees while 20.2 percent were in the category of re-attendance.

3.1 Outpatients in General Hospital

Table 3.0 shows number and percentage distribution of outpatients who visited general hospitals only and were not admitted. A total of 207,616 patients were treated at a general hospital for numerous illnesses with 80.7 percent of them as new outpatient attendees while 19.3 percent were re-attendees.

Table 3.0: Number and Percentage Distribution of Outpatients by General Hospital, 2019

| Hospital | New OPD Attendees | | OPD Re-attendance (for all causes) | | Total |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Berea | 13,914 | 6.7 | - | - | 13,914 |
| Botha-Bothe | 6,883 | 3.3 | 175 | 0.4 | 7,058 |
| Machabeng | 7,224 | 3.5 | 700 | 1.4 | 7,924 |
| Mafeteng | 3,485 | 1.7 | 20 | 0.0 | 3,505 |
| Makoanyane Military | 11,166 | 5.4 | 1,142 | 2.3 | 12,308 |
| Maluti | 29,411 | 14.2 | 10,837 | 21.9 | 40,248 |
| Mamohau Mission | 7,074 | 3.4 | 6,140 | 12.4 | 13,214 |
| Mokhotlong | 8,875 | 4.3 | 612 | 1.2 | 9,487 |
| Motebang | 17,336 | 8.4 | 757 | 1.5 | 18,093 |
| Ntsekhe | 13,853 | 6.7 | 3,204 | 6.5 | 17,057 |
| Paray | 13,724 | 6.6 | 5,625 | 11.4 | 19,349 |
| Quthing | 15,919 | 7.7 | 52 | 0.1 | 15,971 |
| Scott Mission | 21,712 | 10.5 | 9,519 | 19.2 | 31,231 |
| Seboche | 10,936 | 5.3 | 6,091 | 12.3 | 17,027 |
| St James Mission | 10,562 | 5.1 | 1,264 | 2.6 | 11,826 |
| St Josephs | 10,526 | 5.1 | 1,601 | 3.2 | 12,127 |
| Tebellong | 5,016 | 2.4 | 1,818 | 3.7 | 6 34 |
| Total | 207,616 | 100.0 | 49,557 | 100.0 | 257,173 |

3.2 Top Ten Causes of Outpatients

3.2.1 Top ten causes of Outpatients in Health care facility

Table 3.1 illustrates the distribution of top causes of patients who seek help from health care facility. In 2019, across the country in all health care facilities there were 308,101 persons who were diagnosed with coughs and colds and this constituted 25.9 percent of all illness in the country that were diagnosed at a health care facility. Hypertension was among top five illnesses with 4.9 percent while tonsillitis was 2.0 percent.

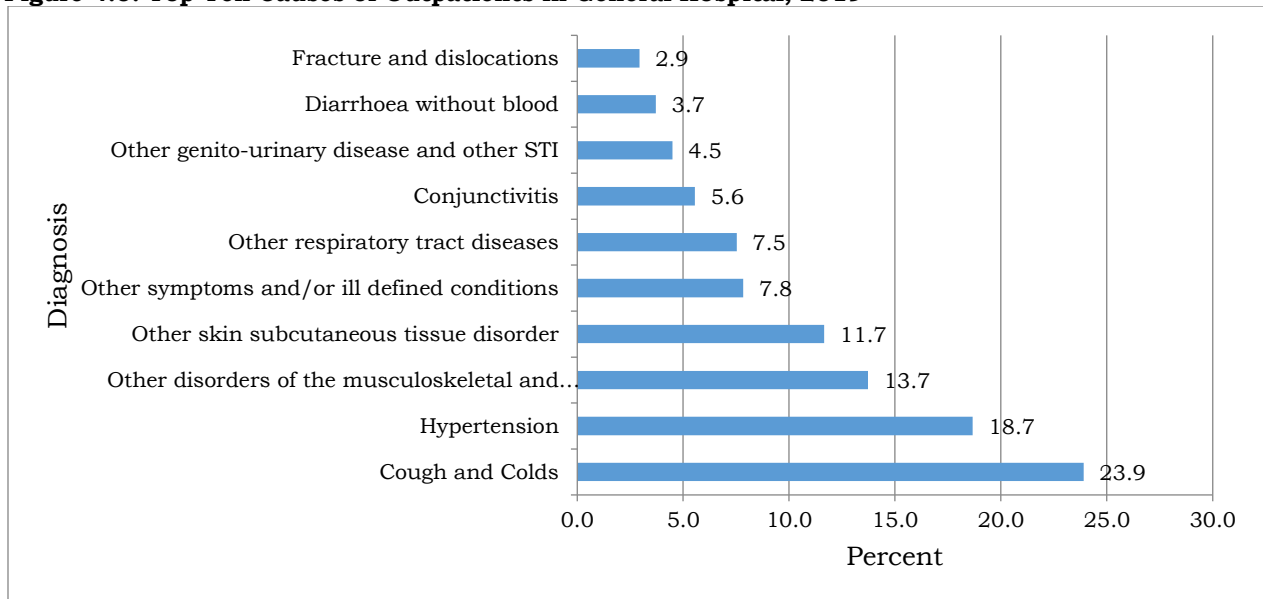
Table 3.1: Top Ten Causes of Outpatients in Health Care Facility, 2019

| Cause | Number (n) | Percent (%) |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Cough and Colds | 308 101 | 25.9 |
| Other disorders of the musculoskeletal and connective tissue system | 120 804 | 10.1 |
| Other symptoms and/or ill defined conditions | 108 183 | 9.1 |
| Other skin subcutaneous tissue disorder | 98 291 | 8.3 |
| Hypertension | 58 236 | 4.9 |
| Other respiratory tract diseases | 39 413 | 3.3 |
| Vaginal discharge | 36 285 | 3.0 |
| Other diseases of digestive system | 32 569 | 2.7 |
| Diarrhoea without blood | 30 239 | 2.5 |
| Tonsillitis | 23 765 | 2.0 |

3.2.2 Top ten causes of Outpatients in General Hospital

Figure 4.0 depicts percentage distribution of top ten major causes of outpatients diagnosed during their visit to hospital during the year 2019. It shows that cough and colds contributed 23.9 percent as the leading cause followed by hypertension with 18.7 percent. Fractures and dislocations were observed to be the lowest in the top ten causes of outpatients visit to hospital.

Figure 4.0: Top Ten Causes of Outpatients in General Hospital, 2019



4.0 DISCHARGES

A discharge occurs when a patient is released from the health care facility, this may occur in the following ways: discharge by health personnel, self discharge, and referral to a different facility and through death. In 2019, 18,336 patients were discharged from hospital of which 56.4 percent were females while 43.6 percent were males. Among both sexes four out of five patients were discharged from hospital by health personnel.

Table 4.0: Number of Inpatients out of General Hospital by types of final outcome and sex, 2019

| Final Outcome | Male | Female | Total |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Discharged | 6,569 | 9,122 | 15,691 |
| Self Discharged | 87 | 96 | 183 |
| Referred/Transferred | 454 | 247 | 701 |
| Died | 897 | 864 | 1761 |
| Total | 8,007 | 10,329 | 18,336 |

5.0 SUMMARY

The numbers of inpatients have decreased by 8.9 percent, from 2018 to 2019. The majority of inpatients in 2019 were admitted in Motebang hospital constituting 16.7 percent and the second highest hospital with inpatients admissions was Scott Hospital with 11.3 percent. Females had the largest number of inpatients than their male counterparts constituting 10,329 and 8,007 respectively.

About a quarter of outpatients that visited a health care facility were diagnosed with “coughs and colds”, constituting the highest proportion.

During the year 2019, 85 percent of inpatients were discharged successfully from the general hospitals by skilled personnel and 10.2 percent died while 4.8 percent of the inpatients were either referred to another hospital or self-discharged.

6.0 ANNEX

Distribution of Health facilities by District, 2019

| District | Number of Health Facilities (N) | Percent (%) |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Botha Bothe | 13 | 7.3 |
| Leribe | 28 | 15.7 |
| Berea | 20 | 11.2 |
| Maseru | 32 | 18.0 |
| Mafeteng | 18 | 10.1 |
| Mohale'sHoek | 16 | 9.0 |
| Quthing | 9 | 5.1 |
| Qacha'snek | 12 | 6.7 |
| Mokhotlong | 11 | 6.2 |
| ThabaTseka | 19 | 10.7 |
| Total | 178 | 100 |

Number and Percentage Distribution of Inpatient Admissions by Hospital, from 2017 to 2019

| Hospital | 2017 | | 2018 | | 2019 | |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Number | Percent | Number | Percent | Number | Percent |
| Berea | 476 | 2.6 | 296 | 1.3 | 291 | 1.6 |
| Botha-Bothe | 818 | 4.4 | 1 610 | 7.3 | 50 | 0.3 |
| Machabeng | 955 | 5.2 | 970 | 4.4 | 399 | 2.2 |
| Mafeteng | 1 917 | 10.4 | 2 037 | 9.3 | 2 020 | 10.9 |
| Makoanyane Military | 532 | 2.9 | 569 | 2.6 | 525 | 2.8 |
| Maluti | 1 298 | 7.0 | 701 | 3.2 | 711 | 3.9 |
| Mamohau Mission | 446 | 2.4 | 965 | 4.4 | 713 | 3.9 |
| Mokhotlong | 1 203 | 6.5 | 1 586 | 7.2 | 1 073 | 5.8 |
| Motebang | 3 425 | 18.6 | 2 886 | 13.2 | 3 076 | 16.7 |
| Ntsekhe | 1 651 | 9.0 | 1 923 | 8.8 | 1 851 | 10.0 |
| Paray | 462 | 2.5 | 864 | 3.9 | 1 666 | 9.0 |
| Quthing | 1 331 | 7.2 | 1 305 | 6.0 | 1 196 | 6.5 |
| Scott Mission | 1 771 | 9.6 | 2 430 | 11.1 | 2 082 | 11.3 |
| Seboche | 638 | 3.5 | 2 115 | 9.6 | 1 095 | 5.9 |
| St James | 650 | 3.5 | 674 | 3.1 | 378 | 2.0 |
| St Josephs | 821 | 4.5 | 940 | 4.3 | 1 210 | 6.6 |
| Total | 18 440 | 100.0 | 21 932 | 100 | 18 336 | 100 |

Top 10 Causes of Inpatients Admissions in General Hospitals, 2019

| | | |
|---|-------|------|
| Incomplete Abortion | 1,216 | 31.2 |
| Pneumonia | 1,154 | 29.6 |
| Diarrheaand Gastroenteritis | 1,003 | 25.7 |
| Sign and Symptom (unspecific) | 957 | 24.6 |
| Diabetes Mellitus (DM) | 687 | 17.6 |
| Other Forms of Anemia | 539 | 13.8 |
| Head Injury | 519 | 13.3 |
| Threatened Abortion (hemorrhage In Early Pregnancy) | 459 | 11.8 |
| Essential (primary) Hypertension | 390 | 10.0 |
| Heart Failure | 347 | 8.9 |

Number and Percentage Distribution of Outpatients by Hospital, 2019

| Hospital | New OPD Attendees | | OPD Re-attendance (for all causes) | | Total |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|----------------|
| Berea | 13,914 | 6.7 | - | - | 13,914 |
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| Machabeng | 7,224 | 3.5 | 700 | 1.4 | 7,924 |
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| Makoanyane Military | 11,166 | 5.4 | 1,142 | 2.3 | 12,308 |
| Maluti | 29,411 | 14.2 | 10,837 | 21.9 | 40,248 |
| Mamohau Mission | 7,074 | 3.4 | 6,140 | 12.4 | 13,214 |
| Mokhotlong | 8,875 | 4.3 | 612 | 1.2 | 9,487 |
| Motebang | 17,336 | 8.4 | 757 | 1.5 | 18,093 |
| Ntsekhe | 13,853 | 6.7 | 3,204 | 6.5 | 17,057 |
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| Scott Mission | 21,712 | 10.5 | 9,519 | 19.2 | 31,231 |
| Seboche | 10,936 | 5.3 | 6,091 | 12.3 | 17,027 |
| St James Mission | 10,562 | 5.1 | 1,264 | 2.6 | 11,826 |
| St Josephs | 10,526 | 5.1 | 1,601 | 3.2 | 12,127 |
| Tebellong | 5,016 | 2.4 | 1,818 | 3.7 | 6 34 |
| Total | 207,616 | 100.0 | 49,557 | 100.0 | 257,173 |

Table E: Top causes of Outpatients in General Hospitals, 2019

| Diagnosis | Number | Percent |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Cough and Colds | 27,787 | 23.9 |
| Hypertension | 21,695 | 18.7 |
| Other disorders of the musculoskeletal and connective tissue system | 15,954 | 13.7 |
| Other skin subcutaneous tissue disorder | 13,553 | 11.7 |
| Other symptoms and/or ill-defined conditions | 9,108 | 7.8 |
| Other respiratory tract diseases | 8,748 | 7.5 |
| Conjunctivitis | 6,455 | 5.6 |
| Other Genito-urinary disease and other STI | 5,228 | 4.5 |
| Diarrhea without blood | 4,319 | 3.7 |
| Fracture and dislocations | 3,418 | 2.9 |