

Daspoort Polyclinic

Community challenges and purpose of centre

The community's challenges include dealing with a poor socio-economic status and a high burden of disease and substance abuse. The purpose of the centre is to create an integrated health-academic platform in the community.

Community engagement opportunities and impact

- Service delivery to the community in an integrated health platform based on functional services in a logical geographical area
- Multidisciplinary team led by a specialist family physician
- Opportunities for research

We have, in line with the reengineering of primary healthcare, community health workers (CHWs) who are part of the ward-based outreach teams (WBOT) attached to the clinic. They visit households in the community for household assessment and screening. They use the clinic as their health post and provide ongoing in-service training at the clinic.

Interdisciplinary learning takes place during service delivery at Daspoort. Mental health is a big challenge and it will be of huge benefit to the clinic and the community if we can involve the Department of Psychology so that psychology students can rotate at the clinic. We have a mobile unit for the oral hygienist but, if we can also involve dentistry students, it will also be a boost for the clinic and the community.

We would like to invite disciplines other than those in the medical field to join us in Daspoort with community development and transdisciplinary learning, because if we improve the socio-economic status of the community, we shall leave a lasting impression on the community.

Community partners

Faculty of Health Sciences, Medical School

Medical students from the L-CAS programme who are involved in community-oriented primary care (COPC) get exposure to the Community Substance Use Programme (COSUP).



Student Intern Complex (SIC) medical students consult patients under supervision of a family physician.

- Allied health workers:
- Dietitians
 - Occupational therapists
 - Physiotherapists
 - Speech and language therapists
 - Audiologists
 - Biokineticists
 - Oral hygienists
 - Social workers

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