
A PEOPLE'S HEALTH MANIFESTO **2014**



We have a right to access
healthcare services!

11 QUESTIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES



Under the leadership of Minister Aaron Motsoaledi we have made significant strides in the fight against HIV. Over two million people are receiving antiretroviral treatment. Rates of mother-to-child transmission have been reduced from over 20% to under 3%. Millions of people have been tested as part of the HIV counselling and testing campaign. People are living longer and the rate of new infections is declining.

However, much of this progress could be undone by corruption, poor management and a lack of political will at provincial level. These problems are manifesting in medicines stock-outs and crumbling health infrastructure in the Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and Limpopo. In the end it is patients who pay the price for poor governance.



With national elections coming up on May 7, the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) is asking political parties to answer eleven key questions. The answers that parties give to these eleven questions will indicate how serious they are about improving access to healthcare for all in South Africa.

1 What steps will your party take to meet the **NSP TARGETS** of reducing new HIV and TB infections and ensuring those who need treatment can access it?

2 What concrete steps will your party take to ensure clinics and hospitals do not run out of **ESSENTIAL MEDICINES**?

3 Will your party **FIX SOUTH AFRICA'S PATENT LAWS** to ensure that life-saving medicines are affordable?

4 What will your party do to ensure local, district and provincial **AIDS COUNCILS** are working properly?

5 What concrete steps will your party take to solve the problem of overcrowding and tuberculosis in **PRISONS**?

6 What concrete steps will your party take to prevent quacks from misleading people into buying **FAKE 'CURES'**?

7 What steps will your party take to ensure that more women are screened more regularly for **CERVICAL CANCER**?

8 What steps will your party take to ensure that teens have access to **CONDOMS AND COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION** in schools?

9 Is your party committed to introducing a **NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE** system?

10 Does your party commit to only appointing appropriately qualified and committed persons as **MECs** for health and to suspend **MECs** or other office bearers facing charges of corruption?

11 Does your party condemn any form of **INTIMIDATION** and do you support the rights of **WHISTLE-BLOWERS**?

Responses received from political parties will be presented at a mass 'Right to healthcare' rally in Bloemfontein on 20 March 2014 and will be published on www.tac.org.za.

This pamphlet is a shortened version of the People's Health Manifesto. You can download the full manifesto from www.tac.org.za.