Johannes van Waart critically important once more. Your contributions, even the smallest ones, in making mothers and babies’ lives better is a testament to your dedication.

Life Healthcare, Netcare, Lenmed and Ferring for KZN still needs to be confirmed. The meeting was hugely successful and a quick resolution was achieved. Francois Cilliers (Regional Lead Obstetrician OFS), Prof G Lindeque (Chair of the BetterObs Management Committee) and Bash Goolab (as the National Lead Obstetrician for 2017). The meeting was an opportunity to discuss the BetterObs Management team’s goals and objectives.

The BetterObs Management team was formalised at the meeting. The team consists of the best Obstetricians and obstetricians from all over South Africa. The team is led by Dr Jacques Joubert and Dr Paul Dalmeyer, both of whom have drawn up a document to be included in the patient’s routine admission documentation. This document (to be signed by all) is a part of their routine admission documentation.

In the document, both parties agree to mediation, a case mediator will be appointed by the high court. This means that these negligent cases will hopefully be settled quicker so that the affected patient gets her payment sooner and with no litigation costs involved.

The BetterObs Management team members will have regular contact with the regional managers of the major hospitals in order to ensure that the BetterObs program is implemented correctly. The Regional Lead Obstetricians will have a short presentation to SASOG council on the role of mediation in medico-legal cases.

The BetterObs program has already been started at some of the hospitals. The project team are almost done and we all hope to have these new codes included in the document (to be signed by all) once fully accepted by council.

Minor alterations still need to be made and once this has been done, the document will be available for monitoring. Feedback from all O&G colleagues have been assisted during forensic review proceedings. We are fortunate to have two strong players in the market (Ethical) product and thus, this complete product, to work with. This will be a huge step forward.

SASOG's commitment to women's health in RSA.

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