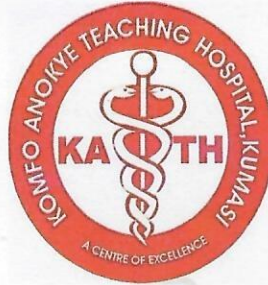


# KOMFO ANOKYE DOCTORS ASSOCIATION (KADA)

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## PRESS STATEMENT

### KOMFO ANOKYE DOCTORS' ASSOCIATIONS COMMENT ON THE TEMPORAL CONGESTION AT THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY UNIT AND THE SUBSEQUENT QUERY ISSUED TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Komfo Anokye Doctors' Association (KADA), representing the medical staff of the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH), wishes to formally express its profound disappointment and concern regarding the query issued to the Chief Executive Officer of KATH in relation to the recent operational challenges at the Accident and Emergency Centre.

As clinicians working daily on the frontlines of patient care, we consider it necessary to place on record our strong support for every effort undertaken by the hospital's leadership to protect patients and preserve lives under extremely challenging circumstances.

KATH is not merely another hospital within the health system. It serves as the principal tertiary referral Centre for the Ashanti Region and much of the middle and northern belts of Ghana. The hospital receives referrals from numerous regions and districts and provides highly specialized services that are unavailable in many facilities across the country. Consequently, the burden placed on the institution far exceeds that of most healthcare facilities in Ghana.

More importantly, the events at the Accident and Emergency Centre reflect a healthcare system under severe strain and should be treated as a crisis requiring urgent intervention. The persistent overcrowding, resource constraints, and increasing referral burden on KATH have reached critical levels, threatening the hospital's ability to provide safe and timely care. Immediate and coordinated action is therefore necessary to address these challenges and prevent similar situations from recurring.

The decision by management to liaise with surrounding hospitals and coordinate patient care was, in our considered opinion, not an act of refusing care but rather an act of responsible clinical governance. The objective was to ensure that patients continued to receive timely and appropriate care within a functioning healthcare network rather than remain in an already overwhelmed facility where quality and safety could no longer be guaranteed.

Indeed, it would have been professionally irresponsible for hospital leadership to ignore clear capacity limitations and allow patients to accumulate in unsafe conditions merely to create the impression that services remained unaffected.

We are therefore concerned that the issuance of a query to the Chief Executive Officer appears to be a knee-jerk response to a crisis rather than addressing the underlying systemic challenges that precipitated the situation. The healthcare professionals of KATH believe that leaders who take difficult but necessary decisions in the interest of patient safety should be supported and engaged constructively rather than publicly subjected to disciplinary processes without a comprehensive review of the prevailing circumstances.


We respectfully submit that the current situation should serve as a wake-up call regarding the increasing pressure on KATH and the urgent need to strengthen referral capacity within the Ashanti Region and beyond.

Over the years, hospitals in Greater Accra, particularly within the Accra metropolis, have benefited from significant infrastructural expansion and investment, resulting in improved healthcare capacity and service delivery. Unfortunately, similar levels of development have not been witnessed in the Ashanti Region. The disparity is evident when comparing facilities such as the Ashanti Regional Hospital (Kumasi South Hospital) with the Greater Accra Regional Hospital, where differences in infrastructure, resources, and capacity underscore the need for greater investment in healthcare facilities within the Ashanti Region. Addressing this imbalance is essential if KATH is to receive the support required to effectively serve its vast referral population.

In this regard, we call on the Ministry of Health to expedite the full operationalization of the Afari Military Hospital, the Sewua Hospital, and other strategically located facilities. The completion and effective functioning of these facilities would significantly reduce the overwhelming burden currently borne by KATH, improve patient distribution, shorten waiting times, and strengthen emergency preparedness across the region.

The medical staff of KATH remain committed to the principles of professionalism, patient safety, and equitable healthcare delivery. We also remain ready to work collaboratively with the Ministry of Health and all relevant stakeholders to develop sustainable solutions to the growing demands placed upon our institution.

Our collective objective must always be the preservation of life and the protection of patients. We respectfully urge the Ministry to engage the leadership of KATH constructively and to focus national attention on resolving the systemic capacity challenges confronting one of Ghana's most important referral hospitals.

  
**DR. (MED) MICHAEL LEAT**  
**CHAIRMAN**  
**KOMFO ANOKYE DOCTORS' ASSOCIATION (KADA)**