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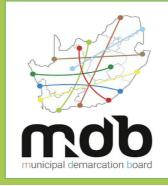
English / Afrikaans

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Sex education empowers learners

Page 6



PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON DRAFT ELECTORAL WARDS

PAGE 13



No registration fee for NSFAS students

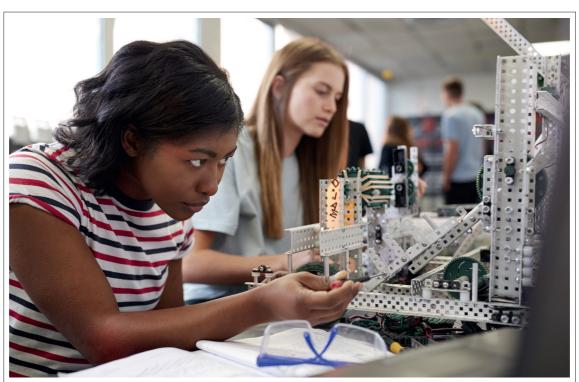
Onalenna Mhlongo and Priscilla Khumalo

■ndividuals qualifying for the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) do not have to pay upfront registration fees at universities or colleges.

Higher Education, Science and Technology Minister, Dr Blade Nzimande, made the announcement recently when he was briefing the media on the implications of matriculation results on the Post School **Education and Training sector** in South Africa.

"The fact that for the first time NSFAS is able to say you qualify, it means therefore, when you go to register when you've been accepted, you've got proof to say, 'I don't have to pay registration'.

"It is also a great improvement in the system because



The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) has approved about 430 000 applications for individuals who qualify for funding.

before, you would have a law," Nzimande said. number of NSFAS qualifying students being asked to pay registration fees, that we have eliminated now [and] who ever does this is breaking the

applications have been approved for NSFAS funding.

NSFAS has received a record-breaking number of

applications by the closing Nzimande said 430 000 date of 30 November 2019, with more than 543 268 firsttime applications (prior year 428 929), received from applicants across the country, with

the majority of the applicants submitting applications online via the myNSFAS portal.

"Applicants include those who were in Matric in 2019, learners in Grade 10 - 11 and those intending to further studies at the TVET (Technical Vocational Education and Training) Colleges and out of school youth, returning/ continuing students without NSFAS funding in prior years," Nzimande said.

A total of 281 639 of all applications received so far are South African Social Security Agency's (SASSA) beneficiaries.

The Minister attributed the success rate in applications to an extensive outreach campaign, including partnerships with both local and provincial governments; and the private

• Cont page 2



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Ektopiese swangerskap is 'n mediese noodgeval

Allison Cooper

roue wat 'n ektopiese swangerskap gehad het, is deeglik bewus van die hartseer wat dit kan veroorsaak omdat dit met uriene- en bloedtoetse positief toets vir swangerskap.

Dit is die mening van dr Bushy Mhlari, Senior Registrateur Ektopiese Verloskunde en Ginekologie by die Dr George Mukhari Akademiese Hospitaal. Hy verduidelik dat n ektopiese swangerskap nie soos 'n normale swangerskap binne- in die baarmoeder ontwikkel nie.

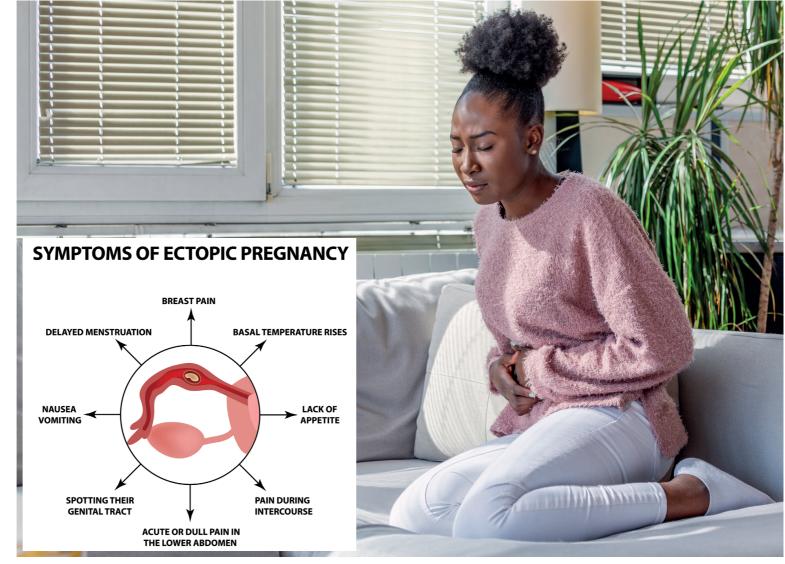
Hy sê dat, met 'n normale swangerskap, die bevrugte eier wat in die fallopiese buis deur die sperm bevrug is, deur die buis tot in die ryk baarmoederholte beweeg, waar dit aan die endometriale voering heg en die baba ontwikkel.

"By ektopiese swangerskappe vestig die bevrugte eier op ander liggaamsoppervlakke. In 98 persent van gevalle is ektopiese swangerskappe in die fallopiese buise geleë. In buitegewone gevalle, kan dit egter ook in die eierstok, buikholte, serviks of die breë ligament voorkom," verduidelik dr Mhlari.

Wanneer dit gebeur, kan die embrio nie oorgeplant word en normaal ontwikkel nie, en is die vrou se enigste opsie om die swangerskap te beëindig.

Dr Mhlari sê dat n vrou n groter kans op 'n ektopiese swangerskap het, as sy:

- beskadigde of abnormale fallopiese buise het, byvoorbeeld, as gevolg van vorige buisinfeksies weens seksueel oordraagbare infeksies of buisoperasies;
- voorheen 'n ektopiese swangerskap gehad het;
- onvrugbaar is;
- veelvuldige seksmaats



sigarette rook.

"Gebarste ektopiese swangerskap is n lewensgevaarlike toestand en is die grootste oorsaak van swangerskapverwante moedersterftes in die eerste drie maande van swangerskap. Die voorkoms van ektopiese swangerskap is ongeveer twee persent in die algemene bevolking," verduidelik dr Mhlari.

Tekens van 'n ektopiese swangerskap

Volgens dr Mhlari kom die simptome vroeg in die swangerskap voor, soms nog voordat die vrou beset dat sy swanger is.

Algemene simptome sluit

- pyn in die onderbuik
- menstruasie wat weg-
- vaginale bloeding.

"Sommige vroue het egter geen simptome totdat die fallopiese buis bars nie. As dit gebeur, kan erge pyn ervaar word, en vaginale bloeding kan ook voorkom. Dit word gevolg deur duiseligheid, 'n daling in bloed-

druk, floute, skok en dood as dit nie so gou as moontlik behandel word nie," sê hy.

Om 'n ektopiese swangerskap te diagnoseer, word n bloed- of urieneswangerskaptoets gedoen om te bevestig dat die vrou swanger is. "n Ultraklankskandering word dan gedoen om te bevestig of die baarmoeder leeg is en om vas te stel waar die embrio in die vrou se liggaam is," sê dr Mhlari.

Behandeling van 'n ektopiese swangerskap

"Sodra 'n ektopiese swangerskap gediagnoseer is, moet dit behandel word om te voorkom dat dit verder groei, want die vrou se lewe is in gevaar as die behandeling vertraag word," sê hy.

"Chirurgie bly die eerste keuse vir behandeling van 'n ektopiese. Met vroeë diagnose is mediese behandeling moontlik voordat die ektopiese swangerskap bars," voeg hy by.

Dr Mhlari sê dat 'n vrou ná n ektopiese swangerskap steeds 'n normale swangerskap kan hê.

Vroue wat vermoed dat hulle 'n ektopiese swangerskap het, moet hul huis-

arts, plaaslike hospitaal of kliniek so gou as moontlik raadpleeg. 0

