# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NO. 3469**

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**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 41)**

**Dr S S Thembekwayo (EFF) to ask the Minister of Health:**

(a) What (i) pre-operation and (ii) post-operation support is his department offering to the patients who have their limbs amputated and (b) do the patients who lose their legs receive wheelchairs?

**NW3531E**

**REPLY:**

(a) (i) Pre-operative support includes assessing the patient's physical condition as well the condition and quality of skin. The patient is also given pre-operative counselling to ensure that they are mentally ready to lose a limb. Counselling is also extended to the family;

(ii) Post operative support includes counselling, wound and skin care. Rehabilitation of patients includes peer support and family integration.

(b) Yes, the policy is that people with amputations have access to wheelchairs, unless instructed otherwise by a relevant specialist.

END.