



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, March 27th, 2017

**SZV ADDRESSES WAITING TIME FOR NEUROLOGY, NEUROSURGERY AND UROLOGY
MEDICAL REFERRALS**

PHILIPSBURG, Sint Maarten (Monday, March 27th, 2017) — Over the past year, Social & Health Insurances SZV has recognized an increase in the need of medical referrals abroad for Neurology, Neurosurgery and Urology. Given the demand for continued care of SZV insured, SZV has made arrangements with Health City Cayman Islands (HCCI) to provide consultation and treatment for its insured with pending appointments for these specialties. The first group of insured will travel on Wednesday March 29th to the Cayman Islands for consultation and treatment.

“We trust that this agreement with Health City Cayman Islands is an alternative that will not only reduce the waiting time but foremost offer quality care. It is imperative that our new general hospital becomes a reality; the medical referral abroad process continues to be a challenge that effects our insured, the funds and remains a logistical struggle. Thirty million guilders per year is being spent on referrals abroad. The new general hospital will not just be a facility, but it will allow us to house the medical care our people need close to home, improve recovery time and ease the financial burden of the funds managed by SZV.”

– *Glen A. Carty, Director SZV*

Medical referrals abroad are facilitated by SZV for its insured when the required medical care is not available locally. Health City Cayman Islands is currently not in the Medical Referrals Abroad Network of destinations for SZV insured. Patients scheduled for treatment to this hospital have been selected based on pending appointment requests dating back from October 2016 to February 2017 for Neurology, Neurosurgery and Urology only. This arrangement with Health City Cayman will alleviate the waiting time for SZV insured and offer an alternative to the current network of international specialists contracted with SZV, addressing the current increase in demand.

SZV continues to strive for affordable quality care within its Medical Referrals Abroad network of medical providers, seeking the best available care for its insured. Persons seeking information on the medical referral process of SZV can find this on the website www.szv.sx.

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