

Healthcare provision is not about beautiful buildings

I react to the comment 'New maternal centre at Mulago hospital is a beauty, pride; please let it remain so' in the *Daily Monitor* of August 30. We needed at least one such hospitals in every district two decades ago. In 1970s and 80s, there were good social facilities put in place in many counties and districts. But these were not well maintained.

Regarding the facility in Mulago,

what leads to quality healthcare are not only beautiful walls or paint. It is about the availability of qualified, motivated health workers. It is also about stock of drugs and equipment that have been persistently lacking in most of the public health facilities. Regardless of where a woman delivers from – either on the floor or on a comfortable bed – the reason why politicians' wives and daughters deliver

from executive private health facilities and outside the country is because of their good stock. Therefore, the writer should not warm up to get another child just because he wants to deliver in this new beautiful building. Without the necessary requisites at the facility, his wife will die in what he refers to as a beautiful structure.

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