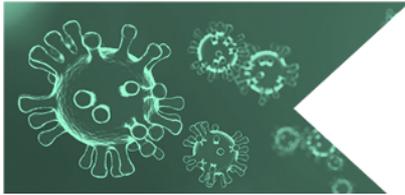


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SAMED COVID-19 NEWS south african medical technology industry association

COVID-19 news from SAMED, Government and Abroad.

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The [SAMED Library](#) is a dedicated resource for all COVID-19 related updates, regulations, notices and news. All SAMED COVID-19 updates and related information can be found [here](#).

SAMED ON COVID-19

We would like to express our unwavering gratitude to every frontline healthcare worker and all those working in essential services who have been working tirelessly to support South Africa during this time of need. We would also like to commend everyone who stayed home in an effort to #FlattenTheCurve.

PLEASE PARTICIPATE: COVID-19 products and company information portal.

We are aware of the constant requests by many sources for different information in different formats re COVID-19. SAMED being one of the 'asker's'. And that this is frustrating and time-consuming.

SAMED has worked hard over the last few days to create a live, online, safe and secure portal where the industry can submit their information regarding COVID-19 required products. (Note our previous excel sheets are no longer required). This effort is part of the broader SAMED collaboration with the Minister of Health via Business Unity South Africa's "Business for South Africa" initiative (BSA). During the current pandemic, up-to-date information is critical to ensure all key stakeholders in the value chain make the best-informed decisions at the right time.

The information collected on the covid19manager.co.za platform will be used to ensure supplier verification, regulatory compliance, product availability, reasonable pricing and providing the accurate and most up-to-date logistical information to the procurement department division at BSA to place orders from you and/or assist with ramping up local production. It is an automated process to help facilitate the overwhelming demand currently being experienced in South Africa during the weeks to come. The IDC, the dti, Minister of Health and the BSA procurement team will have access to the data. No data will be shared with other suppliers. SAMED will report to the Minister on the aggregated data.

We are aware that it is extremely difficult for you to secure overseas supply without a confirmed

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We have the blessing from the Minister to procure locally first and via trusted credible suppliers. We understand that you may have existing orders in the pipeline promised for other customers, however, we urge you to consider diverting as much as you can now and going forward to this portal. If we unite and work together we can make a difference.

NOTE: THIS IS A LIVE SYSTEM SO PLEASE UPDATE YOUR STOCK QUANTITIES AND LEAD TIME AS AND WHEN THEY CHANGE.

Please see the following [link to the video](#) for an explanation of how to use the portal and click on <https://covid19manager.co.za/> to add your company and product information.

You will most likely be contacted by a member of the BSA procurement team should your information provided need to be verified or an order need to be placed. In this regard, we have put in place a security measure. The BSA procurement team will always supply you with your security code that only you have access to on the portal. See the video for reference as to where to find this code. Please never share or read this code to anyone but only have them read it back to you for validation. If at any point you feel your security code is compromised please let Tanya Vogt (tanya@samed.org.za) know and it will reset.

We are extremely appreciative of the support and commitment of our members in fighting this pandemic. [Back to top](#)

DO YOU HAVE A COVID-19 QUESTION OR QUERY?

Please visit the [FAQ Section](#) of our library as it provides answers to many of the frequently asked questions we receive.

QUESTION: Who do I contact at ITAC to assist me with my exports application?

ANSWER: ITAC import or export permit applications for disaster relief as a result of COVID-19 must be submitted electronically. Exemptions for exports all need to be directed to Marius Collins and Lufuno with the correspondence copied to Mohamed Vawda on all ITAC related issues.

- Marius Collins mcollins@itac.org.za
- Lufuno Maliaga lmaliaga@itag.org.za
- Mohamed Vawda MVawda@economic.gov.za.

You will need to complete the following documents:

- [IE361 Application or export permit: General Goods](#)
- [IE230 Application to register as an exporter or change of current information](#)

More details can be found on the [ITAC Communication to Stakeholders](#).

UPDATED COVID-19 NOTICES, LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

Important Update: You need a new CIPC Essential Service Certificate

Latest from DTI: "To prepare for the extended lockdown period, which has been announced by President Ramaphosa, certificates issued before 16-04-2020 will be revoked and replaced with an updated certificate which will be emailed to you. Certificates may also be downloaded from the BizPortal. Certificates issued before 16-04-2020 will no longer be valid and must be disposed of."

If your business/practice is in a Pty Ltd, or Inc any other form that is registered at the CIPC, or **you need a new essential services certificate** (provided of course that you qualify under the definition of essential services/goods).

HOWEVER, most of you **would have received your new certificates by email** overnight. If not, please log into the **BizPortal** <http://www.bizportal.gov.za/services.aspx> (red block at the bottom right-hand side) to download yours.

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also now includes a part for persons who need to travel to another metro, district or province), please make sure that your permit does not contain an end-date, and if so, please re-issue to affected staff without any deadline, and just a general statement such as “This permit is valid during the lockdown, any extension thereof and any other period of limited movement”.

We have also received a few reports about the **abuse of power** by SAPS / SANDF stopping staff, rejecting their travel permits (e.g. by saying that it is no longer valid, or that they reject the stamp and/or the signature, copies of documents being torn up, etc. Please empower staff to report these cases, keep a central and a log: staff must look for the name of the officer on the specific uniform (in some cases it is being removed, that must then also be noted), the exact place where they were stopped, and the date and exact time of being stopped. Any other details, such as remarks made by the official, must also be noted.

Report these (with or without your company details) to IPID and, if of such a nature, to the SA Human Rights Commission. Employers are under a duty to protect their staff from any form of harassment.

Download the Consolidated Lockdown Regulations [here](#).

Download the most recent amendment to those regulations [here](#).

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Guidance for the symptomatic monitoring and management of essential staff with COVID-19 related illness

Over the past few weeks, SAMEDI has received a few queries on how to manage staff who are suspected of having or have already contracted COVID-19. Please note that this is an interim guide that may be updated as the outbreak in South Africa intensifies, to guide additional workforce preserving strategies. The aim of this guideline is to enable:

1. Early and timeous identification and diagnosis of workers at risk of COVID-19 infection
2. Early referral for appropriate treatment, care and timeous return to work of affected workers
3. The protection of other unaffected workers, consumers, visitors and clients of these groups of workers

Download the guideline [here](#).

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National Treasury Procurement Process

National Treasury has published the COVID-19 Disaster Management Central Emergency Procurement Strategy for PFMA Organs of State. This document is to provide instruction for a disaster management central emergency process for PPE. In light of the lockdown, emergencies may occur where normal procurement practices are impractical and, moreover, where there is high demand within a short time frame for goods or services and special arrangements with service providers with proven capabilities can assist need to be made. Given the current global situation, it is clear that countries need to centralise their procurement for local and imported health products, not only to develop scales and prevent its regions from competing with each other for limited supplies but also to scale up orders and arrange logistics.

Download the COVID-19 Disaster Management Central Emergency Procurement Strategy [here](#).

Annexure A: Pricelist and Order Form can be downloaded [here](#).

Annexure B: Customer Master Template COVID-19 can be downloaded [here](#).

Annexure C: An infographic of the Procurement and Distribution Process can be downloaded [here](#).

The Acts are relevantly applicable to procurement are available on the [National Treasury website](#).

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Ventilator Manufacturers Unite to Form Ventilator Training Alliance

Several of the world’s ventilator manufacturers have formed a Ventilator Training Alliance (VTA) and partnered with Allego to create a mobile app frontline medical providers can use to access a centralized repository of ventilator training. The VTA app – powered by learning and readiness platform provider Allego – connects respiratory therapists, nurses and other medical professionals with ventilator training resources from alliance member companies, including instructional how-to videos, manuals, troubleshooting guides, and other ventilator-operation expertise critical to treating patients suffering from COVID-19-related respiratory distress.

How to Access the Ventilator Training Alliance Hub

The app is provided at no cost to medical professionals. To download the Ventilator Training Alliance knowledge hub application, [visit the Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play store](#), or [click here](#) to access the

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If you are a ventilator manufacturer and would like to join the alliance, please send your request to: VTA-Join@allego.com.

Read more about this project [here](#).

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SAHPRA Medical Device Hotline

SAHPRA has launched a COVID-19 Medical Device Hotline to deal with COVID-19 related queries.



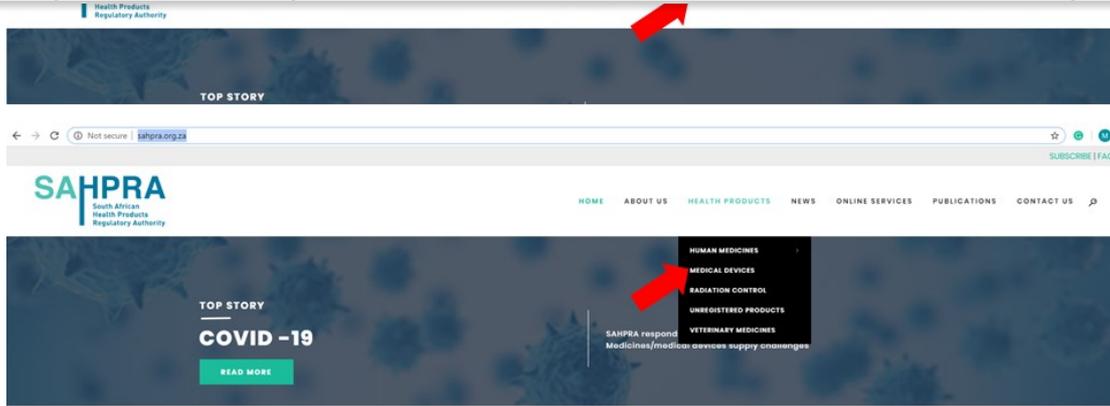
The graphic is a white rounded rectangle with a blue border. At the top center is the SAHPRA logo, which consists of the letters 'SAHPRA' in a bold, teal font, with 'South African Health Products Regulatory Authority' in a smaller, black font below it. Below the logo, the text 'SAHPRA COVID-19 Medical Device Hotline' is written in a bold, blue font. Underneath this, it says 'Commencing on Tuesday 14 April 2020, The SAHPRA Medical Device Hotline will be active. Direct all COVID-Related queries relating to Medical Devices to the following Hotline numbers.' This is followed by three phone numbers in blue: '084 220 8037', '072 993 2273', and '078 281 6334'. Below the numbers, it states 'Hours of Operation: (Excluding weekends and public holidays)' in black, followed by '08:00 – 16:00' in blue. At the bottom center is a blue circular icon containing a white silhouette of a headset with a microphone.

Download this notice, [here](#).

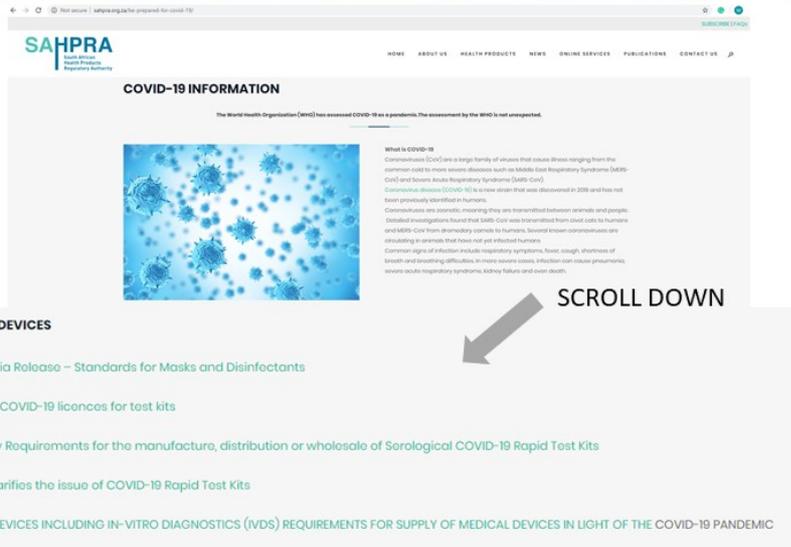
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Make use of the SAHPRA web resources

SAHPRA has two dedicated areas on its website for medical device suppliers. The [medical devices](#) page includes the fees and frequently asked questions. To find this page, go to the www.sahpra.org.za website, hover over the Health Products Tab and then click on Medical Devices. If you scroll through this page you will find information, fees and FAQs specific to devices.



The second is an area at the end of the [COVID-19 page](#) with information and notices specific to the COVID-19 pandemic and medical device suppliers. To find this page, go to e www.sahpra.org.za website, click on either the homepage COVID banner or scroll down to the section on COVID under News. At the end of the COVID-19 page, you will find a section specific to medical devices.



For matters directly related to COVID-19, please contact SAHPRA on their medical device COVID email: mdcovid@sahpra.org.za

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CATEGORISATION OF ESSENTIAL GOODS:

1. Food

- Any food product, including non-alcoholic beverages;
- Animal food; and
- Chemicals, packaging and ancillary products used in the production of any food product.

2. Cleaning and Hygiene Products

- Toilet Paper, sanitary pads, sanitary tampons, condoms;
- Hand sanitiser, disinfectants, soap, alcohol for industrial use, household cleaning products, and personal protective equipment; and
- Chemicals, packaging and ancillary products used in the production of any of the above.
- Products for the care of babies and toddlers.
- Personal toiletries, including haircare, body and face washes, roll-ons, deodorants, toothpaste.

3. Medical

- Medical and Hospital Supplies, medicine, equipment and personal protective equipment; and
- Chemicals, packaging and ancillary products used in the production of any of the above.

4. Fuel, including coal, wood and gas.

5. Basic goods, including airtime and electricity and the withdrawal of cash.
6. Hardware components and supplies required for essential repairs related to the provision of water, electricity or other essential services.
7. Components for vehicles under-going emergency repairs where such vehicle is owned by or used by a person engaged in essential services work.

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



BSA Medical Equipment Procurement Process

The Medical Equipment Workstream is focused on three major types of medical equipment:

- PPE
- Ventilators
- Hand Sanitizers / Hand Rub

It is their vision that all patients, medical practitioners and citizens in SA have access to the medical equipment required to prevent the spread of and fight against COVID - 19. Please see some summary points below:

- Identify a need: looking at both private and public sector, they identify the forecast and immediate demand for medical equipment
- Identify the gap: Identify current availability and expected capacity as well as the additional expected requirement
- Solutions and Quality Assurance: Identify alternative local and international suppliers and manufacturers – technical and clinical panel to liaise with SMEs and SAHPRA to ensure quality and reliability of suppliers/manufacturers and their products
- Allocate funding: Once products have been vetted; funding gets approval from the Solidarity Fund's procurement committee to place the orders. This makes use of a specialised credit facility to provide upfront funding to guarantee supply. Not all orders are funded through the solidarity fund and those who are able to pay for it do.
- After funds have been allocated the logistics providers issue the order and distribute across the private and public sector.

For more on the BSA procurement process, [click here](#).

Download the Code of Conduct that all suppliers must adhere to and sign when participating in the e BSA procurement process, [here](#).

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The Solidarity Fund uniting South Africa against COVID-19

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rate of infection. One of its key focus areas is a Health Response with direct support for the healthcare system, augmenting both the private and government healthcare sectors to ensure they have what they need, as well as enabling emergency supplies.

Details on how to donate are available on the Fund's website www.solidarityfund.co.za

For more information email info@solidarityfund.co.za

For offers of supply of Medicines and Medical Devices send

to covid19supplies@businessresponsecovid19.co.za

If you are seeking PPE for your hospital, clinic, or NGO please email your request

to covid19requests@businessresponsecovid19.co.za

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COVID-19 DEVELOPMENTS

TRACKING THE PANDEMIC

The latest number of confirmed cases is 2 605. There have been 48 deaths recorded so far. According to the latest data from the Department of Health, there have been 903 recoveries.



ECONOMIC AND OTHER RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma provided an update to the Regulations:

- There's no sign of a relaxation on the alcohol ban. There is a prohibition on the transportation of liquor. The only alcohol that is allowed to be transported is that used for commercial purposes such as sanitisers and related issues;
- Cigarette sales remain banned;
- Regulations on attending funerals will remain the same;
- Cooked food is still off the menu – and supermarkets can't sell hot roast chicken or pies;
- Children from a separated home may be able to move between parents with a birth certificate as proof;
- More call centres may open, including those for retailers (and their store cards);
- Emergency workers will be able to get their cars repaired – and you can call out a plumber or an electrician;
- Stores selling [hardware](#) and vehicle components can now reopen as the next phase of the national lockdown begins – under strict conditions. Under the new regulations only “qualified tradespersons” may buy supplies needed for emergency repairs at residential homes.

“Probably every week we are going to be announcing which areas are going to be opened, incrementally, and the conditions of those openings.” While she did not mention which industries would be opened in the initial stages, she hinted that, with the winter season setting in and schools being opened, both necessitated certain considerations and needs for people.

Essential services certificates

Businesses that previously registered to perform essential services during the lockdown will need [new certificates from Friday 17 April](#), the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission warned on Thursday night. Businesses seeking an exemption to perform essential services have previously had to register on the government's [BizPortal](#) website, but their current certificates are no longer valid as the initial 21-day lockdown period for which they applied ended on 16 April. The CIPC said it will send new certificates covering the extended lockdown period, which starts on Friday, via email to addresses

Post lockdown

Life will not go back to normal immediately while there is a risk of [a big second wave of infections](#). Businesses, and organisations such as schools and universities, will have to operate under different rules for at least the duration of the South African winter (when seasonal influenza could be mistaken for COVID-19, and burden the health system) and likely until a vaccine is available.

Universities

[Universities](#) around South Africa are getting ready to resume the academic year next week. Only this time, students won't be flooding back to campuses after a lengthy vacation. Instead, online teaching and learning has been touted as the top solution to save the academic year in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and the extended lockdown period.

The University of Johannesburg, Stellenbosch University, Rhodes and Wits have confirmed that their second term will begin remotely on 20 April.

Caxton, the publisher of [Citizen Newspaper](#), has seen income of its daily paper fall by more than 60% as a result of the 21-day lockdown to counter the rapid spread of coronavirus. The fall in earnings will lead to a reduction in staff numbers over the two-week extension of the lockdown and a possible introduction of a temporary cut in salaries.

CLINICAL, SCIENCE AND NEWS ON THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PANDEMIC

- Protests and looting have broken out all over South Africa in recent days in response to one issue: hunger. It is now clear that hunger will pose the greatest threat to the country's well-being and security during the lockdown – and the difficulties involved with getting food to millions of South Africans in need are tremendous. This week alone, grocery stores have been looted and protests have broken out on the Cape Flats, Khayelitsha, Alexandra and Chatsworth – to name just a few areas. But the logistical challenges of providing food to potentially millions of South Africans under lockdown are monumental, and may not be able to be resolved through [existing systems](#)
- University of Chicago Medicine researchers said they saw “rapid recoveries” in 125 COVID-19 patients taking Gilead Sciences Inc.'s experimental drug [remdesivir](#) as part of a clinical trial.

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SAMED is the voice of the South African medical technology industry. The not-for-gain was formed in 1985 and aims to provide members with a collective, objective and credible platform to engage with stakeholders. SAMED's members include individual medical technology companies, associate members and associations.

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