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COVID-19 news from SAMED, Government and Abroad.

DEBT RELIEF FOR CUSTOMERS FROM THE BANKING ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

South African banks have so far approved more than R30,6 billion in relief to individuals and businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and national lockdown. Separately, over R10, 6 billion has been extended to distressed businesses under the COVID-19 Loan Guarantee Scheme.

[See the update on Debt Relief for Customers from the Banking Association South Africa \(BASA\)](#)

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DISTANCE, DOSE, DISPERSION: AN EXPERTS' GUIDE ON COVID-19 RISKS ON SOUTH AFRICA AND HOW TO MANAGE THEM

Understand the three things that can make the most difference to easing the lockdown and reopening South Africa with the least risk, whether you are using a taxi, socialising, working, working out, or running a shop.

It has become clear that some countries in Asia and Europe rapidly contained their epidemics through simple and relatively easy behaviour changes, rather than relying on changes in immunity or prolonged lockdown strategies. The aim is to share some basic essentials about how to minimise risk. [Read more.](#)

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

In the latest Presidential notice, Ramaphosa stated that the elderly are finding themselves quite isolated due to social distancing and the lack of community events, but it is necessary to protect lives. In addition, data released by the Department of Health indicated that people with underlying medical conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, renal disease, asthma and chronic respiratory disease are more vulnerable to developing severe complications and dying from coronavirus.

In a number of the provinces, including Gauteng and Western Cape, testing is being offered to people with co-morbidities such as diabetes whether they show coronavirus symptoms or not. This smart approach to screening and testing is part of the effort to limit infections among those most vulnerable.

The President indicated that one of the lessons from this pandemic is that we need a holistic approach to health. Anecdotal evidence suggests many South Africans have used the lockdown period to make positive lifestyle changes like doing more exercise or quitting smoking. Reducing the burden of lifestyle-related diseases on the South African health system is ultimately in the best interests of our health, our economy and our own personal finances.

Read the full release [here](#).

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COVID-19 EVENTS

JOIN SAMED FOR A BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY FORUM: 9 JULY 2020, 14:00



[Click Here to join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

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MEDBRIEF PPS WEBINAR WITH PROF ROBIN WOOD ON COVID-19 AND VACCINES



To register, [click here](#).
Please submit questions to Prof Wood beforehand in writing.

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IHRM: Webinar Update on the Impact of COVID-19

IHRM invites you to join them for a webinar on 31 July at 09h00 when Christoff Raath, Joint CEO of Insight Actuaries and Consultants, will provide an updated analysis on the Impact of COVID-19 on Medical Schemes and Private Hospitals, as South Africa reaches the peak of the pandemic.

For more details or to register [click here](#).

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