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COVID-19 news from SAMED, Government and Abroad.

ESTIMATING CASES FOR COVID-19 IN SOUTH AFRICA: UPDATED 19 MAY 2020

The South African COVID-19 Modelling Consortium have noted some uncertainty regarding both the true scale and spatial distribution as a result of PUI criteria and testing coverage. The models developed by MASHA, SACEMA and HE2RO in conjunction with the NICD have been considered. There has been extensive and ongoing input from clinicians, virologists, intensivists and epidemiologists to refine key model assumptions and parameters.

This estimates requirement for PPE, ICU beds and Staff, Ventilators, Testing, O2, hospital beds, medications and PHC staff. Under almost all scenarios hospital and ICU capacity will be exceeded, though the timing and extent are uncertain. This requires a flexible approach to resource acquisition with initial purchases now and additional orders as more information becomes available.

Download the Minister of Health Media Briefing Slides [here](#).

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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.

[CLICK HERE](#)



BUSINESS FOR SA | COVID-19

B4SA UPDATE: BUSINESS FOR SOUTH AFRICA CALLS FOR LEVEL 2, SWIFTLY

INTERVIEW COURTESY OF RADIO 702, THE MONEY SHOW WITH BRUCE WHITFIELD

Martin Kingston from Business for South Africa was interviewed on Bruce Whitfield's Money Show on Radio 702 this week and called on the government to restore people's capacity to earn in order to avoid social collapse.

"We think that we're on the brink here - it's not a life versus livelihoods debate, it's about addressing the fundamental issues that underpin society where we can give people access to nutrition, where we can be assured that they can deal with health concerns. Loss of income is linked quite explicitly to lower life expectancy, therefore we need to return the economy to full productivity as soon as possible"

Martin Kingston, Business for South Africa



To listen to the interview on Radio 702, please go to [The Money Show interview with Martin Kingston](#)

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SECOND DRAFT DISASTER MANAGEMENT TAX RELIEF AND RELIEF ADMINISTRATION BILL

20 May 2020 Update: National Treasury and SARS publish the 2nd revised 2020 Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Bill and revised Draft Notice on Expanding Access to Living Annuity Funds. These are published to provide early feedback on issues raised through public comment on the revised COVID-19 Draft Tax Bills published on 1 May 2020 that are time-critical for payroll and other aspects to be implemented in May 2020.

The 3rd revised 2020 Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Bill and 2020 Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Administration Bill, as well as the Notice on Expanding Access to Living Annuity Funds, **will be published by the end of May** to take into account all public comments received on the revised COVID-19 Draft Tax Bills published on 1 May 2020. They provide the necessary legislative amendments required to implement the tax measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

- [Media Statement: Publication of the 2nd revised COVID-19 Draft Tax Bill and extension of time for public comments on specific 2020 tax proposals](#)
- [Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Bill – 19 May 2020](#)
- [Draft Explanatory Memorandum on the Revised Draft Disaster Management Tax Relief Bill – 19 May 2020](#)
- [Notices – Expanding access to living annuities – 19 May 2020](#)

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NICD CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED COVID-19 DISEASE - VERSION 4

The clinical spectrum of COVID-19 ranges from an asymptomatic or mild flu-like illness to severe pneumonia requiring critical care. These guidelines describe the clinical management of cases of COVID-19 disease, including clinical care in and outside of healthcare facilities, and are intended for use in both the public and private sectors.

The National Department of Health is committed to providing regular updates of guidelines, as knowledge regarding strategies to address COVID-19 develops both globally and in South Africa. This version of the guidelines provides updated and additional information on the diagnosis and management of patients with COVID-19, as well as specific guidance on the management of specific groups such as pregnant and breastfeeding women, children and people living with HIV.

Download version 4 [here](#).

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DEADLINE 29 MAY 2020: APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL DIAGNOSTICS & REAGENTS FOR COVID-19

The South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) has announced a funding opportunity aimed at supporting the development of a local capacity to supply reagents for existing gold standard COVID-19 testing as well as to offer rapid alternatives for the direct detection of the virus.

The SAMRC invites researchers from recognised South African public universities, science councils and public research organisations, including the SAMRC's intra and extramural units and collaborating centres, to apply.

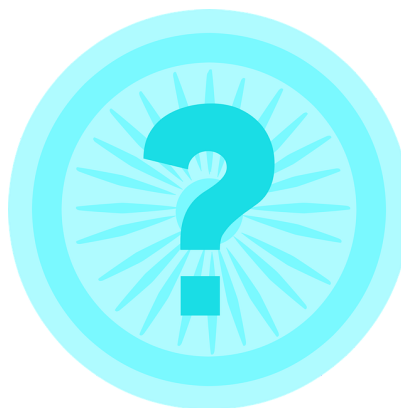
The RFA is also open to not-for-profit and for-profit companies in South Africa who are involved in developing and manufacturing diagnostics and/or components. For more information and to download the relevant documents, [click here](#).

Please direct queries or requests for information on this RFA to:

Dr Michelle Mulder, Senior Program Manager: michelle.mulder@mrc.ac.za

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.



What must I do to prepare my workplace and have staff return to work?

There are now Occupational Health & Safety Measures that all businesses, apart from health facilities and practices, must adhere to. This applies to those who have been supplying essential goods this far, as well as those that may partially re-open from level 4 and down.

Download the directive [here](#)

You can also find useful tools on the [Return2Work website](#).

Where can I get a list of goods that are banned from export by the government?

The restrictions on Personal Protective Equipment are set out in the published [Export Regulations](#).

The regulation provides that items listed in schedules 1,2,3 and 4 shall not be exported from the Republic of South Africa except by virtue of an export permit issued in terms of Section 6 of the said International Trade Administration Act,2002.



IMPORTANT SAHPRA MEDICAL DEVICE NOTICES

It is imperative to first read the notices as the regulatory is currently being inundated with calls and queries which are covered in these notices.

- [Specification criteria for COVID-19 serological test kits](#)
- [Joint Communication-Regulatory Status of Equipment Used to Help Prevent COVID-19](#)
- [NRCS media Release – Standards for Masks and Disinfectants](#)
- [Regulatory Requirements for the manufacture, distribution or wholesale of Serological COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits](#)
- [SAHPRA clarifies the issue of COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits](#)
- [Medical devices including IVDS requirement for supply in light of COVID-19 pandemic](#)

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SAHPRA MEDICAL DEVICE CONTACTS

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

- 084 220 8037
- 072 993 2273

medical device queries can be sent to MDnotifications@sahpra.org.za

For general licensing queries: June Searela june.searela@sahpra.org.za / 072 828 2416

For COVID-19 related applications: Matlapeng Shabalala Matlapeng.Shabalala@sahpra.org.za / 071 302 0409 or

Khanyisile Nkuku Khanyisile.Nkuku@sahpra.org.za / 081 854 7109

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PARTICIPATE ON BSA COVID-19 PORTAL

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 SAMED office, 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.

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 be reset.

We are extremely appreciative of the support and commitment of our members in fighting this pandemic.

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THE SOLIDARITY FUND

The Solidarity Fund provided more details on its purpose and mandate of mobilising and coordinating efforts and resources from all South Africans and the international community to assist most vulnerable South Africans to deal with the impact of Covid19 and the consequences of measures intended to slow its 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

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 EVENTS

EKA SNAP SESSIONS: COVID-19 & MEDICAL SCHEMES and COVID-19 & PRIVACY

Elsabe Klinck and Associates has scheduled two more evening snap sessions.

- COVID-19 & medical schemes: 20 May 18:00; and
- COVID-19 & privacy: 28 May

Download the form [here](#).

THE 2ND ARROW RESILIENCE WORKSHOP

Dr Alex Granger is offering a workshop to assist companies to build resilience, resolve, and character within their staff. "The 2nd Arrow" deals with helping individuals build remarkable resilience to face any crisis and to continue to deliver for the organisations they work for.

Download the workshop overview [here](#).

View Dr Alex Granger's profile [here](#).

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COVID-19 WORKPLACE RESPONSE TRAINING:

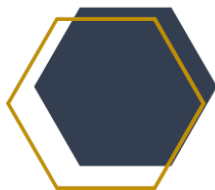
Occupational Safety & Health COVID-19 Training

AUDA-NEPAD in partnership with the African Union, Department of Health South Africa, The International Labour Organisation (ILO) and partners will be hosting a series of COVID-19 Workplace Response Training on Occupational Safety and Health for all sectors.



Training 1: 18 May
10h30 -12h30
(GMT+2)

Setting up coordination team and workstreams



Training 2: 20 May
10h30 -12h30
(GMT+2)

Epidemiology and management of COVID-19 in the workplace



Training 3: 22 May
13h30 -15h00
(GMT+2)

Return to work post COVID-19 illness & lock-down



Training 4: 25 May
10h30 -12h30
(GMT+2)

Implications of COVID-19 in the workplace: OSH Context

Download the Training Flyer with registration links [here](#).

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OMMIA HEALTH COVID-19 VIRTUAL EXPO

With COVID-19 impacting almost every aspect of day-to-day life, it may not be 'business as usual'. But at this critical time if you would like to feel connected with the healthcare community across the world (despite social distancing) and stay up-to-speed on the latest developments within the global healthcare industry...join us for this **free-to-attend virtual expo** – [Omnia Health Live](#)

Omnia Health Live are bringing together the global healthcare industry, for the largest virtual gathering ever seen before, a whole new concept planned from the ground up to be more diverse and accessible, **taking place 22-26 June 2020**.

Ready to be part of this exhilarating new journey? [Join the experience here](#)

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COVID DEVELOPMENTS

TRACKING THE PANDEMIC

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| | | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 17,200 | 1,707 | Fatalities | 1.81% | 7,500 |
| Active Cases | Relative to Population | 312 | Relative to Population | Total Tests |
| 8,928 | 0.0293% | | 0.000531% | 488,609 |

| Gauteng | Western Cape | KwaZulu Natal | Free State | Eastern Cape | Limpopo | Mpumalanga | North West | Northern Cape |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|--------------|---------|------------|------------|---------------|
| 2,361 | 10,639 | 1,616 | 168 | 2,135 | 94 | 78 | 72 | 37 |
| Daily Increase | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | 604 | 49 | 5 | 83 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

More than 40 000 people are expected to die from the coronavirus in South Africa by November, one million people will be infected and the country is unlikely to have enough ICU beds at the peak of the pandemic. Projections also show there would be 30 000 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in South Africa by the end of May with one million cases projected by June and July.

ECONOMY, POLITICS, ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION, SOCIAL

Lockdown: Gauteng Premier David Makhura says the entire province will move to Level 3 of the lockdown at the beginning of June. The premier addressed previous updates of different parts of Gauteng being in different levels of lockdown.

The premier also told the provincial legislature that the coronavirus has left the province with an "astronomical" challenge on its hands and has exposed urban poverty in the country's economic hub. Describing the fallout from the Covid-19 outbreak, the premier said it compared to the great depression economically, which had the potential to destroy livelihoods, economies, investments of businesses, and the pensions of ordinary working people.

State owned entities have reported challenges of not being able to pay employees, the state-owned arms manufacturer, Denel, has become the latest company to join a growing list that are telling employees funds for salaries are falling short.

Reopening of schools: Food programme, transport will be available under safety protocols

The National Coronavirus Command Council and Cabinet have approved the reopening of schools as of 1 June, Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga announced. The school reopening, will start with grades 7 and 12 as well as "small schools". The minister said independent or private schools would also be opening in the metropolitan areas, adding the revised school calendar would be gazetted soon.

The department said it would ensure that, by the time pupils return, it would have sanitised classrooms and that masks, sanitisers and other personal protective equipment (PPE) would have been delivered to schools. The School Nutrition Programme will be aligned with the phasing in approach, and measures were being put in place to ensure that those pupils returning from 1 June will be receiving food. The people handling the food will be provided with gloves, aprons and face cloths.

CLINICAL, SCIENCE

The Gauteng Department of Health has observed an increase in the number of TB and HIV patients defaulting on medication since the lockdown was implemented in March. According to the department, 1 090 patients failed to collect their TB medication and 10 950 failed to collect their antiretroviral medicines. As a result, the department is implementing a track-and-trace plan to locate patients who have not collected their treatment.

This will be achieved through ward-based outreach teams.

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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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