

## **COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) and Informal Markets (Street Vendors)**

The 2019 novel coronavirus or SARS-CoV-2 is a new respiratory virus that can make people sick especially those with low immunity. The virus causes the COVID-19 disease and can be mild similar to the common cold or more severe like pneumonia. All sections of society including businesses, self-employed persons and employers must play a role to stop the spread of this disease.

### TRANSMISSION



- ▶▶ Person-to-person **contact** or touching contaminated surfaces
- ▶▶ Likely spread via respiratory **droplets** within a distance of two meters (1-2m) through coughing and sneezing
- ▶▶ Estimated incubation period is between 2-14 days

### COMMON SYMPTOMS



Cough



Fever



Shortness of breath



Sore throat



Headache

Other symptoms include:  
Body aches and pains  
Weakness or fatigue  
Severe respiratory distress

### HOW IS COVID-19 DIAGNOSED?

If your nurse or doctor suspects you may have COVID-19, then a laboratory test would be required. The National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) has detailed information and guidelines for collecting, handling, and transporting clinical specimens from patients under investigation (PUI) to their laboratory.

### Protect yourself and loved ones from coronavirus.

Wash your **hands** regularly with **soap and water** or use an **alcohol-based hand rub**.

**Cover your mouth and nose** while **sneezing or coughing**.



**Avoid close contact** with anyone who has a cold or flu-like symptoms.

If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, **seek medical care early**.



### WHAT IF THERE IS CONFIRMED CASES AT THE MARKET PLACE?

- ▶▶ Immediately inform environmental health practitioners in your area to determine the course of action.
- ▶▶ Cooperate with the contact tracing officers. They will assess who has to be placed under quarantine.
- ▶▶ Inform co-workers of their possible exposure to COVID-19 but maintain confidentiality.
- ▶▶ Immediately vacate and cordon-off the section of the workplace premises where the confirmed case worked.
- ▶▶ Carry out a thorough cleaning and disinfection of the workplace premises.

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## STREET VENDORS SHOULD:



Clean and wipe all surfaces at your stall / cubicle with household disinfectant before you start selling every day, regularly during the day, and before you leave.

Wash your hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer:

- Before, during and after preparing or handling food
- After you used ablution facilities
- After blowing your nose, sneezing or coughing
- After handling animals or animal products

Before you eat

DO NOT greet people with handshakes, hugs or kisses.

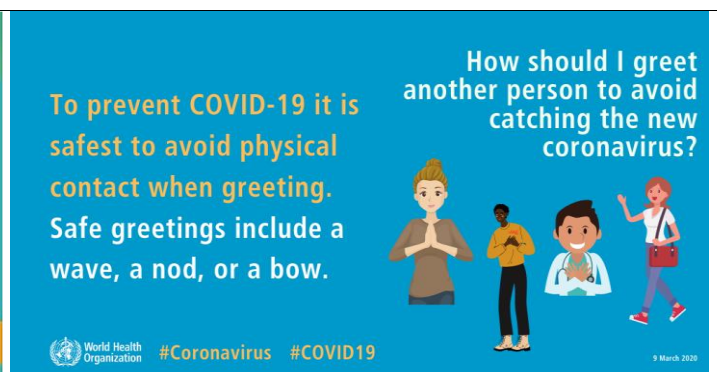
Stay at home when you feel sick.

Co-workers must keep 1 – 2 meters apart from each other.

Customers must stand at least 1 meter away from vendors during purchasing.

Customers must not touch or handle items that they are not going to purchase.

Official resource and news portal: [www.sacoronavirus.co.za](http://www.sacoronavirus.co.za) or WhatsApp “Hi” to 0600 123 456



For more information, contact

NICD: 080 002 9999 NIOH: [info@nioh.ac.za](mailto:info@nioh.ac.za)

[www.nicd.ac.za](http://www.nicd.ac.za) or [www.nioh.ac.za](http://www.nioh.ac.za)



Information in this fact-sheet is correct as at 30 March 2020. Please consult NICD, NIOH, CDC and WHO websites for updated information, that we will share as and when it becomes available