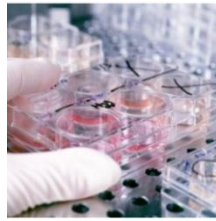




NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Division of the National Health Laboratory Service



BioRisk Assessment for COVID-19

STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH



Dikeledi Onnicah Matuka

National Health Laboratory Services
National Institute for Occupational Health
PO Box 4788, Johannesburg, 2000, RSA

Practice No.: 5200296

Switchboard: + 27 (0) 11 712 6400

Website: <http://www.nhls.ac.za>

<http://www.nioh.ac.za>

WORKPLACE BIORISK ASSESSMENT

A process of **determining the risk** associated with **exposure** to a particular **biological hazard**, evaluating the **existing controls** and deciding if **risk** is **acceptable**

- **Protect** the health (workers & public) and prevent or **reduce exposure** in any workplace
 - Informs **mitigation strategies**
-

HOW TO ASSESS HAZARDS AND RISKS

DECIDE

HOST

Working hours,

Risk factors- **age, smoking, comorbidities**

Risk occupations

Symptomatic

PUI/contacts

TRANSMISSION PATHWAY

Entry portal

Direct Exposure

CONTACT

HEALTH EFFECTS

Infection COVID-19

AGENT

Corona virus

SOURCES

Human, body fluids, waste, equipment, surfaces

IDENTIFY

Semi-direct Exposure

Contaminated hands

Indirect Exposure

Instrument or objects

ENVIRONMENT

Registration desks,
Doorknobs, waiting areas, bathrooms,
density, overcrowding

RECORDS

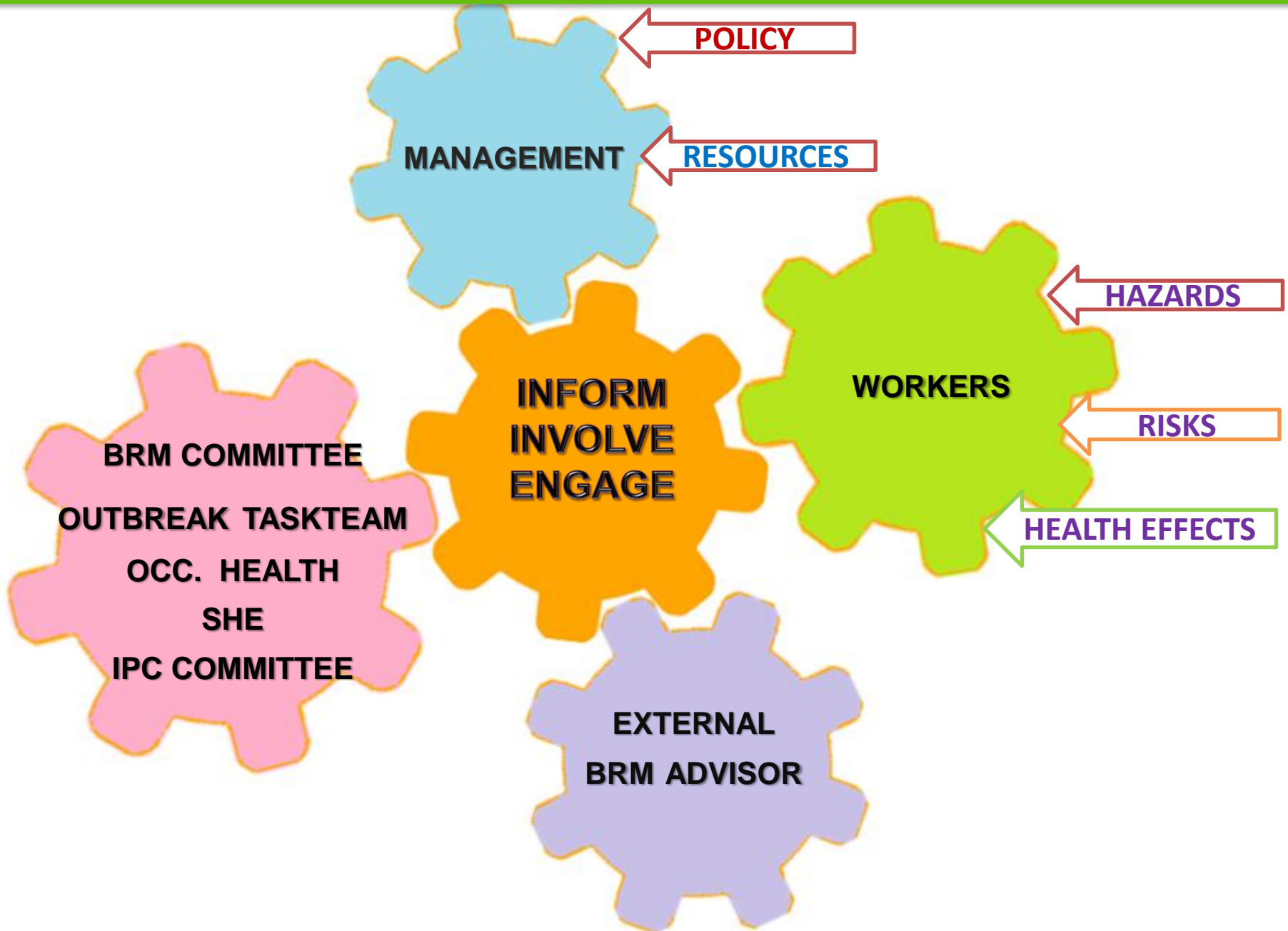
IMPLEMENT

REVIEW

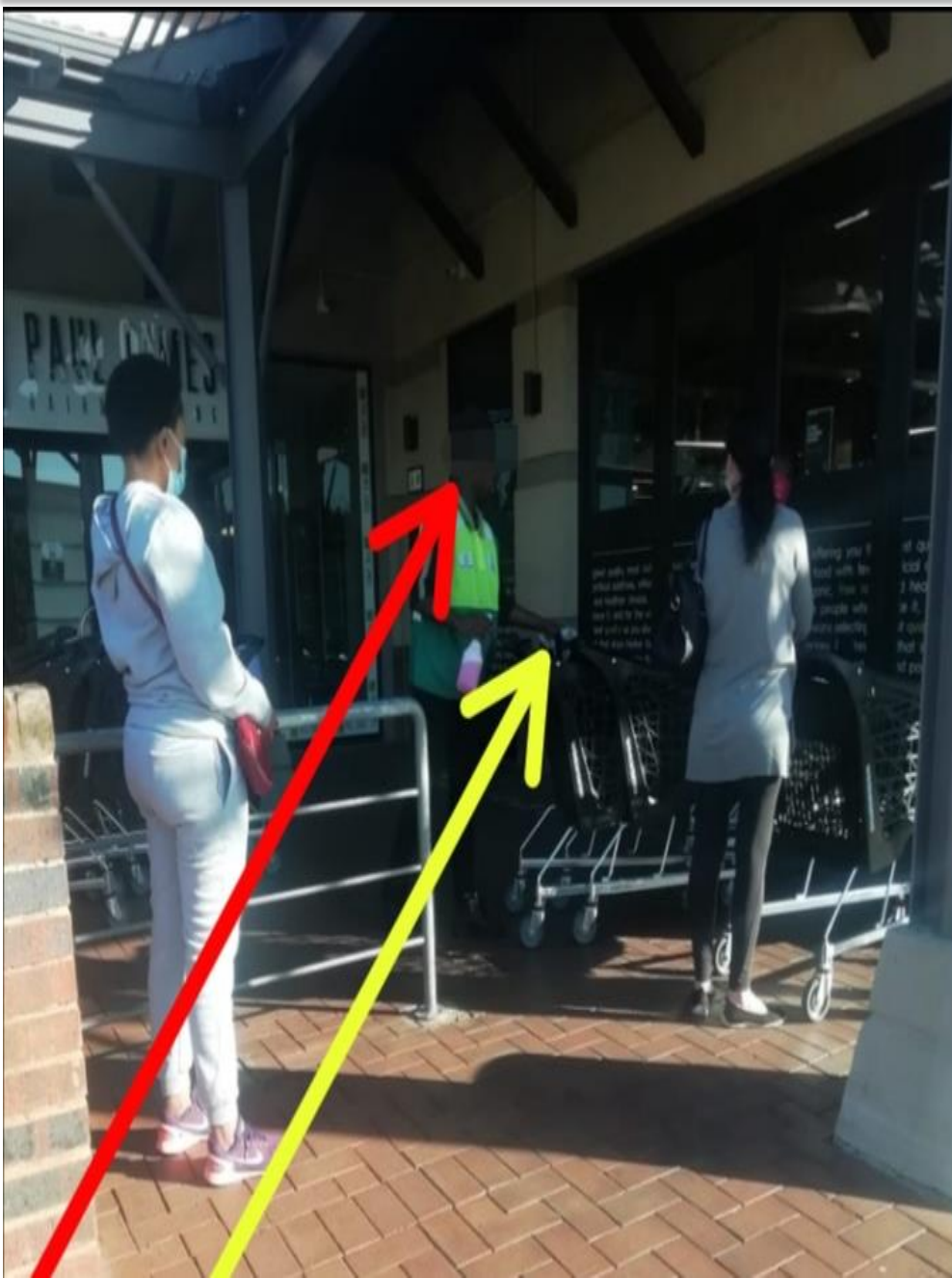
UPDATE

Multidisciplinary

RISK COMMUNICATION



DOES THE CONTROL MEASURES PROTECT?



HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS: EXAMPLES

Elimination/ Substitution

- **Impractical to eliminate**
- Exposure unknown & unavoidable
- **Work home**
- **Job rotation** of skilled workers
- **Limit numbers** of workers and passengers
- **Drive through**
- **Cashless** shop
- **E-shopping**
- Deliveries
- Reduce hours
- Automated robots
- **Paper-free** admin

Admin.

- **Risk Assessment**
- **Policies (business risk)**
- **Screening tool**
- Triage
- **Early case ID**
- **Isolation**
- 1.5-2m distance
- **Staff training**
- **Sanitizers** for VH, H, M groups
- **Contact tracing**
- Minimize visitors or passengers
- Sick workers or passengers must **stay home**
- **Masks compulsory**
- Support care
- Posters / notices
- Inform/briefings
- Webinars

Engineering/ Environmental

- Wash basin/shower
- Surface **cleaning & disinfection**
- Sterilization
- **Isolation rooms**
- Adequate ventilation
- Signage
- Strict Access control
- **Perspex screen**
- Online / mobile shop
- Speed pay points
- Proper and safe waste disposal
- **Self loading bins** for waste collectors
- Surface **cleaning devices**
- **Rearrange workstations**

PPE

- **Respirator & face shield** for V/High risk
- **Gloves** for V/H risk groups
- **Aprons**
- **Goggles**
- Hair covers
- Shoe covers
- Lab coats
- Surgical gowns

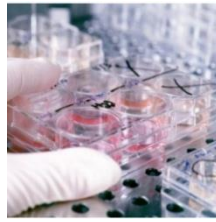
BEHAVIOUR

- **No touching** of nose, mouth, eyes
- Good **respiratory hygiene**
- Good **hand hygiene** practices
- **Proper donning and doffing** of PPE
- **Compliance** with self **isolation** and **quarantine**
- **Prompt reporting** of travelling and symptoms



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BioRisk Assessment Tool

