

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO ADDRESSING LOCAL NEEDS



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COVID-19 TRAINING PROGRAMME

Occupational Safety and Health in Urban Public Workplaces
for workers in the Informal Economy. Webinar 27 August
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covid-19...

is [regretfully] providing a new paradigm for occupational health and the urban reconfiguration of informality

historically...

informality has been marginalised

- as a livelihood practice
- as deserving of workplace health and safety

covid-19...

brings the realities of

- health and safety dictates
- physical distancing as a key discipline
- catastrophic loss of livelihoods
- the potential for the transmission of hazards across formal/informal sectors where informal hubs are a foci

the consequence...

- no longer justification for differing services or protocols to secure the health and safety of workers
- achieving physical distancing will reconfigure the public spaces utilised by informal workers
- informal livelihoods will become a developmental local government priority

opportunity...

- to invigorate a longstanding collaboration between UKZN and AeT with the reality to be able to practice synergy



ukzn's contributions...

background

- Occupational health concerns itself with the relationship of health and work



- The health of workers impacts their ability to work
- Work itself may impact negatively on the health of the worker
- In the formal economy, “safety blankets” exist to support workers
 - paid sick leave
 - Medical boarding
 - Compensation for occupational diseases
- In the formal economy, structural protective frameworks exist:
 - Health and safety legislation
 - Employer funded occupational health services
 - Employer funded specialist services

ukzn's contributions...

addressing covid-19 in the informal economy

- Key health tasks:
 - reduce the risk for the worker acquiring the infection
 - Reduce the risk of the worker developing serious outcomes
 - Return the worker to work following proper assessment
- This requires:
 - Workplace planning, evaluation and re-organization with expert input from occupational hygienists
 - Implementation of standard infection control guidelines that are meaningful and appropriate
 - Clinical assessment of vulnerable workers, symptomatic workers and workers returning to work after severe illness
 - Screening and testing of workers

ukzn's contributions...

a proposed pilot

- To provide a set of tools for workplace and worker assessment
- To establish an expert network that is able to provide consultation and advice by occupational hygienists and occupational medicine specialists
- To provide in-the-field assessments as required
- To assist in outbreak management

ukzn's contributions...

specialist health services

- There is a panel of occupational health practitioners namely occupational hygienists, occupational medicine specialists, occupational nurses, safety specialist who have committed themselves to providing service.
- This panel will develop guideline and protocols which will be industry specific.
- They will assist in investigation of work related Sars-Cov2 exposure and corrective action thereof.

AeTs contributions...

Build a wash station: *Street corner*

You will need:

- Pallet wood
- 5l plastic jerry can
- Bucket and small basin with hole
- Soap in plastic netting

Remember to wash your hands for at least 20 seconds!



Build & assemble:

- Build a wooden frame as indicated with two uprights to hold bottle of water and platform to support bucket
- Create support on each upright - one u-shaped indent to one side, one hole opposite, both to pivot the yoke of the bottle
- Create yoke to slit between two uprights and attach an arm to hold soap and a lever to connect the yoke to the forearm lever
- Place yoke between supports and connect the yoke to the forearm lever with a nylon cord
- Place bucket in stand, attach soap and fill the bottle with water



wash stations

AeTs contributions...



Build a wash station: Table top – Small upright

You will need:

- Pallet wood
- 2l coke bottle and small coke bottle
- Sunlight (or similar) dishwasher 'click' cap
- 2l ice cream tub
- Soap mixture: 2 tablespoons soap and 5l water

Build & assemble:

- Build a squared frame from wood with an inverted L and create a hole for the bottle rest in
- Shape the hole in the wooden stand to receive the profile of the neck of the bottle
- Cut a hole in the base of the coke bottle and attach the top of a smaller bottle to form a funnel to fill the bottle; screw on the click cap
- Create an additional wooden 'key' to slide between the neck of the bottle and the underside of the support arm
- Screw the key to the underside of the support arm
- Insert assembled bottle and ice cream tub

Remember to wash your hands for at least 20 seconds!

wash stations

AeT contributions...



messaging

health champions

thank you



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