



CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) and Informal Markets (Street Vendors)

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a virus that can spread rapidly from an infected person to any person with whom they had close contact with. Different variants of the virus have been identified. The symptoms can be mild similar to the common cold, or more severe like pneumonia. All sections of society including businesses, self-employed persons and employees must play a role to reduce the spread of this disease.

TRANSMISSION



- » Person-to-person contact
- » Likely spread via respiratory droplets within a distance of two meters (2m) through coughing and sneezing
- » Possible transmission through touching contaminated surfaces

SYMPTOMS FOR A SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASE (WITH OR WITHOUT OTHER SYMPTOMS; NDOH GUIDELINES FOR SYMPTOM MONITORING & MANAGEMENT V6 12 DEC 2020)



COUGH



SHORTNESS OF BREATH



SORE THROAT



LOSS OF SENSE OF SMELL



DISTORTION OF SENSE OF TASTE

HOW IS COVID-19 DIAGNOSED?

If your nurse or doctor suspects you may have COVID-19, then a laboratory test would be required.

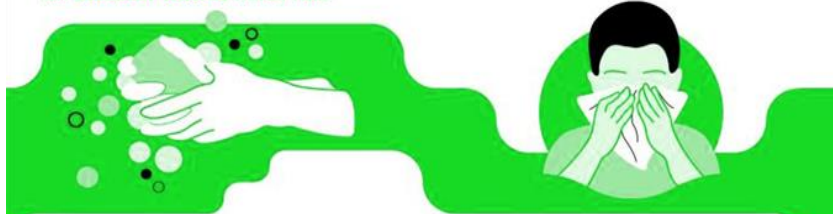
The National Institute for Communicable Diseases' webpage provides detailed information and guidelines with regards to whom should be tested, and the process to get tested.

NICD website: www.nicd.ac.za
Public hotline: 0800 029 999
WhatsApp support line: 0600-123456

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**.





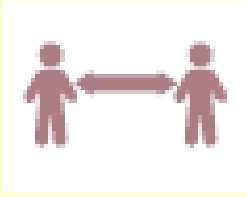



WHAT IF THERE IS CONFIRMED CASES AT THE MARKET PLACE?

- » Immediately inform environmental health practitioners in your area to determine the course of action, or call the hotline number: 0800 029 999.
- » Determine whether you could have had close contact with the person that tested positive.
- » Ensure that persons that have had close contact with a confirmed case, stay in quarantine for 10 days from last day of contact.
- » Inform co-workers of their possible exposure to COVID-19 but maintain confidentiality.
- » Carry out thorough cleaning and disinfection of all surfaces and equipment.

IS CORONAVIRUS AND COVID-19 REAL?

- ▶ South Africa, as most other countries in Africa and the rest of the world, have experienced more than one outbreak or wave of COVID-19 during the past year.
- ▶ This means that there are times when the number of diagnosed cases of COVID-19 increase rapidly.
- ▶ During each wave, the number of patients that need medical attention and are admitted to hospital with breathing difficulty and serious pneumonia-like illness, as well as deaths due to the disease, increase rapidly.
- ▶ This put a lot of strain on the health system, because hospitals fill up to their full capacity, and may not have beds available for new patients.
- ▶ The health workers that care for these patients have an increased risk of contracting the disease. If they get sick, they need to stay away from work and isolate, which places more stress on their colleagues to care for patients.
- ▶ By adhering to the prescribed measures, we can all play a role in reducing the spread of the disease and alleviate the pressure on the health system and health workers.

HOW CAN STREET VENDORS HELP?

	<p>Every person, including vendors, employees and customers must wear a face mask / cloth covering over their mouth and nose when in a public space such as the market place.</p> <p>Clean and wipe all surfaces and equipment at your stall / cubicle with household disinfectant before you start selling every day, regularly during the day, and before you leave.</p>	
	<p>Co-workers must keep at least 1.5 meters apart where possible, or use physical barriers.</p> <p>Customers must stand at least 1.5 meter away from vendors during purchasing.</p> <p>Customers must not touch or handle items that they are not going to purchase.</p>	
<p>Wash your hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Before you put on a mask, and after you removed a mask○ 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.		
	<p>Stay at home when you feel sick, except to get medical care.</p> <p>Vulnerable workers (older than 60 years, immunocompromised, with chronic illnesses, especially if it not well controlled, etc.) should remain at home as far as possible.</p> <p>DO NOT greet people with handshakes, hugs or kisses.</p> <p>Use non-contact forms of greeting from a distance of at least 1.5 meters.</p>	

Please also refer to the official resource and news portal: www.sacoronavirus.co.za or WhatsApp "Hi" to 0600 123 456



COVID-19 Workplace Preparedness & Prevention
HEALTHY, SAFE & SUSTAINABLE WORKPLACES
Workplace Hotline: 0800 2121 75
Occupational Health Surveillance System [OHSS]
 General queries for data submission: 0723215503 | 0713981169 | OHSWorkplace@nioh.ac.za
www.nioh.ac.za | info@nioh.ac.za | twitter: @nioh_sa

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