

COVID-19 DIGEST

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MAKERERE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Highlights

Bankers Association Donates UGX200M towards Makerere COVID-19 Rapid Testing Kits

UBA and the Deposit Protection Fund have today contributed Shs.200M as financial support towards production of rapid testing kits for COVID-19.

Mathias Katamba, the UBA Acting Chairman said the support extended by financial institutions is targeted to facilitate 53,000 tests across the country. The revelation was made in an April 22 statement.



Zoom Quote

In this country, we have used chloroquine for many years. We think patients should benefit from the drug as it interferes with virus entry and proteins. Hydroxychloroquine alone has a safety profile so we think patient could benefit as they have anti-viral properties.

Prof. Pauline Byakika, MakCHS

LOCKDOWN



SPOTLIGHT



VC Prof. B. Nawangwe & Dr. Misaki Wayengera, a researcher and virologist.

COVID RAPID TESTING KITS BY MAKERERE AT ADVANCED STAGE

Makerere University is in advanced stages of developing much cheaper and faster test kits that will not need a laboratory like the existing test kits.

According to the Vice Chancellor Professor Barnabas Nawangwe, researcher and virologist, Dr. Misaki Wayengera is leading the research into the cheaper tests that will take just five minutes to yield COVID-19 results. <https://bit.ly/2VQbfxR>

Countries must strengthen National Healthcare Systems

“An important lesson to pick from this COVID-19 crisis; is that, in a country that is over-dependent on other countries' health systems, we are all vulnerable, no matter who has (or not) money. There are situations where money may not directly buy you health. This leaves an “egg on our faces” that ‘shipping abroad’ for treatment can be untenable. Some degree of self-sufficiency at the system level is necessary.”

Chrispus Mayora, Evidence Response Unit

UGANDA NUMBERS

63 Cases

45 Discharged

0 Deaths

5,664 Tested

GLOBAL NUMBERS

WHO: 2,471,136

cases | 169,006 deaths

JHU: 2,594,724

Cases | 179,778 deaths

COVID-19: A Global Health Crisis that has become a Global Economic Crisis

Richard Sempala

Knowledge

Management Officer

SPEED



The world has been hit hard by coronavirus. Starting from China in December 2019, the virus has spread to more than 200 countries.

With developed economies suffering such repercussions, developing countries, especially in Africa, have started to feel the impacts of the disease.

These are manifested directly in the health sector and indirectly in other sectors as a result of supply and demand shocks.

Besides the deaths, the economic impacts have had dramatic effects on the wellbeing of families and communities.

What next?

The COVID-19 pandemic has portrayed the interlinkages between health and economic activities. Countries ought not to prioritise economic drivers alone in their national budgetary allocations but should also consider other social sectors, like health. Find out more here;

<https://bit.ly/3eA9PQB>

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