

COVID-19 DIGEST

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Highlights

New WHO guidelines

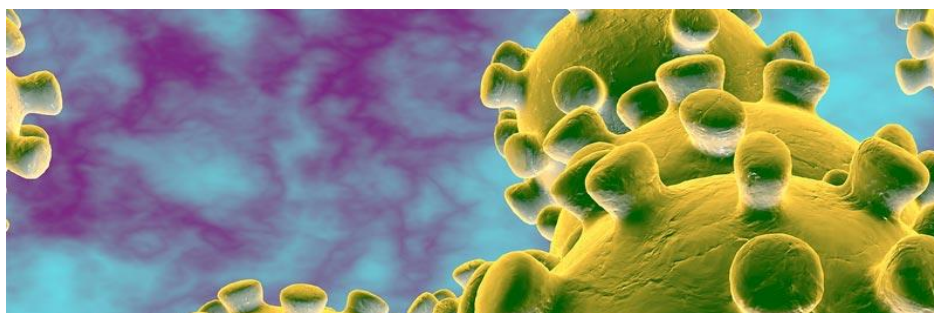
WHO has updated the operational planning guidelines to help countries maintain essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The document includes a set of immediate actions that countries should consider at national, regional, and local level to reorganize and maintain access to high-quality essential health services for all. For more information: <https://bit.ly/39zb11M>

Why Sub-Saharan Africa needs a unique response to COVID-19

"Because health systems in Africa are strained to begin with and have very limited capacity to absorb the pandemic, the overall strategic approach should focus on containment and aggressive preventive measures." Read more here <https://bit.ly/2QZ1hJb>

COVID-19 Game

Because COVID-19 is causing confusion and anxiety here is a new game <https://bit.ly/2UwxGsy> to help you relax. It is free-to-play and works on any device through a web browser.



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

SPOTLIGHT

MakSPH fellows, alumni, students join Uganda's COVID-19 frontline



In partnership with the ministry of Health, Africa Field Epidemiology Network, the US Centers for Disease Control, Makerere School of Public Health (MakSPH) deployed 32 graduate alumni and students to support the country COVID-19 response. The alumni and students are involved in case management of COVID-19 patients in Mulago National Specialised Hospital, contact tracing, following up people under quarantine, conducting epidemiological investigations, and data management among other activities. Coordinated through the Dean's office and the MakSPH MPH Alumni Association, these responders are providing their time and expertise on a voluntary basis as part of the National Rapid Response Team (NRRRT) and are working directly under the MoH.

Uganda Numbers

- 33 cases
- 0 deaths

Global Numbers

- WHO: 693,224 cases | 33,106 deaths
- JHU: 801,400 cases | 38,743 deaths

Voices from our responders

"People need to know that the disease is for real and it's not a joke thus they need to stay safe by staying at home. People are not taking it seriously. They are still crowding in many places like markets." Ms Suzan Waako.

Ms Mackline Ninsiima: "During the follow up of the contacts to the COVID-19 Case, community members tend to think and actually believe that the contact under follow up is a COVID - 19 Case which increases stigma among the contacts. Communities think that contacts with symptoms are automatically COVID - 19 Positive. We need to sensitise the public that contacts are not COVID - 19 cases until they tested and found positive."

"Our experience with personal protective equipment (PPEs) so far shows that as a country, we need to prioritize availability and supply of PPEs whether or not an outbreak emerges. I call this preparedness especially for frontline health workers/responders to ensure that care and surveillance are 100% effective." - Ms Gertrude Abbo.

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