Advancing global health in Africa and beyond



DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL HEALTH Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Stellenbosch University

Over the past few weeks staff in the Department has been responding to the pandemic in many different ways: modifications and enhancements to teaching and learning to continue our academic offering, ongoing mentorship and support for postgraduate research, new research to inform the COVID-19 response, promoting the use research evidence, media responses, case and contact tracing, and developing and driving practice guidance.

The information in this presentation is just a snapshot of ongoing activities.

Date: 8 May 2020











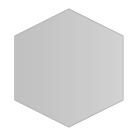
Prof René English
Division of Health Systems
and Public Health

Development of research protocols for COVID-19 research

Provide input and oversight to medical students regarding Daily Research Summaries for ICU at Tygerberg Hospital.

Colleges of Public Health
Medicine COVID-19 Task Team
Working Group – Colleges of
Medicine of SA

Supporting protocol development – Clinicians at Tygerberg Hospital



Development of online materials for under-and postgraduate teaching and learning as per the Faculty COVID-19 response

Assisting with Case and Contact tracing.











Prof Kathryn Chu, Centre for Global Surgery



As a board member, informing MSF on new operations during COVID in South Africa

Volunteer at the provincial disaster management COVID19 call centre

Interview on COVID preparedness in South Africa to LifeBox, an NGO to improve surgical care in LMICs



Implementation of a prospective multi-centre international study on COVID19 positive patients undergoing surgery (COVID-SURG)











Dr Lungiswa Nkonki, Division Health Systems & Public Health



Paper on SA's health workforce & infrastructural preparedness in response to COVID-19 pandemic

Decisive and strong leadership and intersectoral action from South Africa in response to the COVID-19 virus, SAMJ. 2020;110(5):. DOI:10.7196/SAMJ.2020.v1 10i5.14739



SA FM morning show (radio); Sunday Times (newspaper),
Health24.com











Profs Mark Tomlinson and Sarah Skeen, Institute for Life Course Health Research Collaborating with
Dept. Economics on
the Coronavirus Rapid
Mobile Survey
(CRAM)

Coordinating development of resources on protecting adolescent mental health during the pandemic for WHO/UNICEF

As part of 'Parenting for Lifelong Health' producing* simple, evidence-based messages for parents with children of all ages.

*Collaboration between
Parenting for Lifelong
Health, WHO, UNICEF, the
US Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention,
Internet of Good Things,
USAID and the End Violence
Partnership.

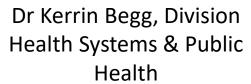


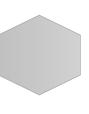












Providing guidance to colleagues & decision-makers in other provinces and in the private sector.

Assisting the Provincial Outbreak Response Team with Case and Contact tracing.

Member of College of Public Health Medicine guidance task team developing guidance for decision makers



Responded to 55 media queries: 12 live TV interviews, 8 radio interviews and various written pieces.











Prof Gubela Mji Centre for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies (CDRS)



Postgraduate
programs of
CDRS: Staff cont.
with online post
graduate
programs.

Research: Staff of the CDRS continue supporting postgraduate students and staff continue writing publications



Undergraduate programs

Planning MBCHB prog. in the light of COVID-19.

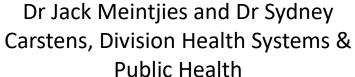














Occupational medicine Tygerberg Hospital

MBChB module online module development: Dr as Change agent PG Diploma
Occupational
Medicine online
module
development



Developing occupational medicine guidance e.g. Guidelines on managing risk for COVID-19 in potentially exposed health workers







4 Ukwanda staff supporting Coivd-19 case and contact tracing by Tygerberg pod. Possibility of opening Worcester pod being discussed.

Research Forum: Q&A on Covid-19 for staff



Prof Ian Couper & team,
Ukwanda Centre for
Rural Health

Adjusting programmes & supporting students in the Rural Clinical School, particularly MBChB (Worcester, LIM, Upington) Provision of ongoing service at the Avian Park Service learning Centre

As part of SUNSTRIPE, successfully piloted a new COVID-19 module to be offered to health workers in Africa through AFREHealth, to rural health workers in SA and to students.

Dr Amy Slogrove. with 2 NRF interns and Moleen Zunza. is supporting Angela Dramowski in conducting a rapid review of COVID19 infection and mortality risk in healthcare workers









Dr Frederick Weinand, Dr Martin Muller, Dr Inneke Laenen and Dr Masudah Paleker

Registrars: Division of Health Systems and Public Health Supporting
Occupational Health
clinic

Completed guidance document for medical treatment of supernumerary Registrars in relation to COVID-19

Working with Occ Health team to complete a document on risk assessment and risk classification of health care workers for COVID-19 in relation to exposure and risk

Completed synopsis for Circular instructions for compensation of COVID-19

 -Amendments/additions to Provincial PPE plan according to feedback and queries
 -Support for ongoing revision of Provincial Service Preparedness plan

Contact tracing and data management with COVID-19 response



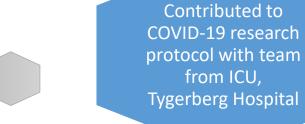








Dr Birhanu Ayele,
Division of Epidemiology
and Biostatistics



MSc Biostatistics online module development

Exploring transition of data collection from paper to electronic in order to minimize data collectors risk to COVID-19

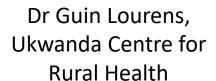














As board member of Paarl hospital provided mental health workbook and other interventions for hospital staff to care for carers during Corona crisis

As member of Cape
Winelands district Council
provided support for
opening of the CoVID-19
testing centre at Paarl
Hospital

Designed CoVID-19 information booklet for distribution amongst carers, security staff and general workers

Collaboration with the frail care industry providing multiple policies on dealing with Corona virus risk management in care centres, occupational health for all staff and frail care students, wheelchair and assisted devices, telephonic support model to the elderly by lay volunteers, emergency planning, etc.

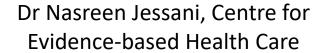














Invited by Instill Education to speak on webinar for teachers preparing for COVID-19

Invited by US state department to round table discussions on what to expect for the South African Health system.

Invited by the Aga
Khan Council for
South Africa to serve
as a panellist on the
health impacts of
COVID-19



Leading a collation of research, syntheses, rapid reviews and their links to COVID-19 relevant decisions in Africa. https://aen-website.azurewebsites.net/en/eidm-during-covid-19



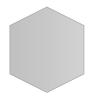












Undergraduate activities:
Preparation of modules for online tuition, weekly meetings of UG Committee chaired by Dr van Niekerk using online, KNO report on modifications to the BSc Diet submitted

PG: All our modules continuing. June Examination could be adjusted at the request of the Facilitators



Continues inline with University embargo and between Study Leader and Student



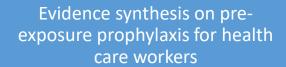
NICUS – Radio (RSG, Radio Pretoria) on COVID Immunity and Diet; Lay publications in e.g. Weekend Argus, Huisgenoot













Providing guidance to private sector health care providers in respect of evidence interpretation

Transition of modules to hybrid models to continue learning and teaching activities to postgraduate students

Provision of information and resources on impact of COVID 19 on cancer patients



Prof Vikash Sewram, African Cancer Institute











Prof L du Plessis, Dr L Daniels, Ms T Dhlamini, Mrs R Beukes, Mrs C Owens, Mrs I Gierdien, Mrs L Koornhof, Division of Human Nutrition Supported the Western Cape DoH: Nutrition Programme with documentation and evidence on feeding during emergencies

Supported NGO's on request about outreach activities relating to the contents of food parcels and economical meals













Prof Taryn Young

Linking with global evidence synthesis groups to streamline response <a href="https://www.mcmasterforum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networks/covidenum.org/networ

With Anel Schoonees and McMaster colleagues conducted a rapid review of evidence on interventions to reduce risk of spread in public transport http://www.samj.org.za/index.ph
p/samj/article/view/12943

Mobilizing teams to conduct rapid reviews Offered training on making sense of research to students preparing daily COVID research briefs to clinicians

With Cochrane Africa & Global
Evidence Synthesis Initiative
conducted LMIC survey to gather
information on ongoing and planned
COVID research
http://www.cebhc.co.za/research-key-outputs/cochrane-africa/

Oversight for development and implementation of under-and post-graduate online teaching and learning in Epidemiology and biostatistics

Sharing COVID research evidence and resources with DoH





CEBHC Research summary

LMICs

Visser, Anel Schoonees

Anel Schoonees, Taryn

Young

Team member	Topic	Progress
Michael McCaul (co-author)	Rapid review methods even more challenging during COVID- 19: Commentary	In peer review – Journal Clinical Epidemiology
Tonya Esterhuizen (co- author)	Primary health care nurses' preparedness for COVID-19 & its influence on primary health care services, Western Cape	Ethics approval obtained
Peter Nyasulu, Birhanu Ayele, Rene English	Implications of Severe COVID-19 at Tygerberg Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa	Ethics approval obtained
Michael McCaul, Amanda Brand	Conducting rapid reviews to inform National DoH guidance	Rapid review completed
Celeste Naude, Anel Schoonees	Obesity as an independent risk factor for COVID-19 severity	Rapid review in progress
Moleen Zunza	South African healthcare workers and COVID-19: A shared responsibility to protect a precious and limited resource	http://www.samj.org.za/index.ph p/samj/article/view/12977/9279
Anel, Schoonees, Taryn Young	COVID-19 and diabetes, hypertension, asthma, occupational lung diseases, coronary heart disease, heart failure & stroke	Rapid review in progress
Amanda Brand, Marianne	Community-level interventions to increase access to food in	Cochrane review, in peer review

Interventions to reduce risk of spread in public transport

http://www.samj.org.za/index.ph

p/samj/article/view/12943





The Department of Global Health http://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/healthsciences/global-health/Pages/default.aspx collaborates across disciplines and sectors to address complex health problems. This presentation shares a snapshot of ongoing activities in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Heartfelt appreciation to everyone for their efforts during this difficult time.

A special recognition for all staff in health care services.

8/05/2020



