



**health**

Department:  
Health  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

To: Editors & Health Journalists  
Issued by: Department of Health  
Date: Tuesday, 07 July 2020

It is our unhappy task to announce that four employees from the National Department of Health – one from the Ministerial Office and three from the Department itself – have tested positive for Covid-19.

All employees who had been in close contact are being traced and will be managed as per the expected procedures for contact tracing, testing and quarantine.

We wish these employees a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming them back when they are declared fully recovered.

The Department of Health continues to operate and will not be closed. We also confirm that the Minister and Deputy Minister of Health has not physically been in contact with any of the employees.

The health and well-being of our employees, who are essential to the fight against Coronavirus, is of paramount importance. Hitherto, it must be said, the department employees have been exemplary in their conduct since the onset of the pandemic. All workplace regulations have been closely observed and service delivery has been maintained even while many have been working from home. The Ministry of Health wish to express sincere gratitude to all employees in the Department of Health for leading by example.

Despite our best efforts, Coronavirus will touch all our lives. But our best efforts do make a difference. We can fight the Coronavirus, even as we open the economy and interact more with each other, if we observe the rules of engagement. We must always wear our masks over the nose and mouth, even in the workspace. We must strictly abide by the rules of social distancing. We must clean our hands and the surfaces we encounter fastidiously. Added to this, we must avoid crowded places, and avoid leaving home whenever possible.

For enquiries and more information, please contact

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