

Draft Google form for dissemination via the Grahamstown/Makhanda Facebook page as well as through community partners

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Dear Participant in the Makana Local Municipality region

In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the President of the Republic of South Africa declared a national state of disaster on the 15th March 2020. Like many South Africans, you may have many questions about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and how to protect yourselves. Researchers at Rhodes University are working to provide up-to-date and accurate information to all members of the Makana Municipality, but we need your input on what information will be most useful to distribute at this time.

Your participation will assist us in the urgent task of providing information to our community. Please note that this questionnaire does not seek to provide a cure or any type of medical advice about the treatment of the coronavirus (COVID-19). The aim is rather to establish which information the public in the Makana Local Municipality requires regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19).

We therefore ask you to give some time and thought to answering these questions. Thank you for taking the time to read this. We appreciate the time taken and are grateful for your participation.

Please share the link with others in the Makana Local Municipality region.

Only participants over the age of 18 can respond to this questionnaire. The survey is completely anonymous and your answers will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. The information will be collated and none of your answers will be linked back to you personally. All information disclosed in the surveys will be treated as confidential and will not be used for purposes other than this study. Only the collated and anonymous information may be used to devise information packages that could be disseminated to the Makana Local Municipality. Anonymized responses provided may also be published or presented at conferences.

Your involvement in this questionnaire is voluntary, you may choose not to answer any questions in the survey, to answer only a few questions or to withdraw from the survey at any time.

For further information on this questionnaire please contact the Science Engagement Researcher of the DST/NRF South African Research Chair in Biotechnology Innovation and Engagement, Ms. Lwazi Madikiza at 046 603 7673 or email: [j.limson@ru.ac.za](mailto:j.limson@ru.ac.za), [r.tandlich@ru.ac.za](mailto:r.tandlich@ru.ac.za), [s.paphitis@ru.ac.za](mailto:s.paphitis@ru.ac.za) or [s.srinivas@ru.ac.za](mailto:s.srinivas@ru.ac.za). If you have any further queries and/or concerns, please feel free to contact the Rhodes University Ethics Coordinator [s.manqele@ru.ac.za](mailto:s.manqele@ru.ac.za).

I consent to participate in this research by answering questions in this survey. I am aware that my privacy and confidentiality will be maintained, that I have the right to withdraw at any time and that I may choose not to answer any questions in the survey.

- Yes
- No [automatically exits survey]

Age

- Under 18 [automatically exits survey]
- 18-25
- 26-34
- 35-49
- 50-65
- Over 65

**Section 1/2 this section has 4 questions and should take you less than 1 minute to complete**

1. Number of people in your household
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3-5
  - More than 5
  
2. Gender (Check one or more boxes that reflect your gender)
  - Female
  - Male
  - Transgender
  - Gender variant/Non-conforming
  - Prefer not to say
  - Other
  
3. Highest level of education
  - Primary School
  - High School
  - University or College
  
4. Employment
  - Currently Unemployed
  - Retired
  - Part-time employment
  - Full-time employment
  - Self-employed
  - Student

**Section 2/2 this section has 21 questions and should take you less than 25 minutes to complete**

1. How worried are you about yourself and/or your family becoming infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19)?
  - 1 – Not worried at all
  - 2 – Slightly worried
  - 3 – Somewhat worried
  - 4 – Moderately worried
  - 5 – Extremely worried
  
2. What are common symptoms of the coronavirus (COVID 19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'
  - Fever
  - Cough
  - Sore throat
  - Shortness of breath
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. "Anyone may be infected with the coronavirus (COVID 19)". To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?
  - 1 – Strongly disagree
  - 2 – Disagree
  - 3 – Neither agree or disagree
  - 4 – Agree
  - 5 – Strongly agree
  
4. Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [multiple checkbox]
  - People with allergies have runny noses. So anyone with a runny nose does not always mean they are affected by COVID 19.
  - People with asthma cough. So anyone with a cough does not always mean they are affected by COVID 19.
  - Common flu can also cause the runny nose, cough and sore throat because it is also a type of virus like the COVID 19.
  - Keeping oneself and one's surroundings clean is most important to reduce the chance of getting any infection including COVID 19
  
5. Are there people who are immune to (cannot be infected with) the coronavirus (COVID-19)? If yes, please explain.
  
6. Who is most at risk of becoming seriously ill if they are infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [Multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'
  - Older adults
  - People with heart diseases (including high blood pressure)
  - People with diabetes (high glucose/blood sugar)
  - People with lung disease (e.g asthma)
  - People with HIV/AIDS

- Women and children
- People who are receiving treatment for cancer
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

7. How is the coronavirus (COVID-19) transmitted between people? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [Multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- Person to person contact
- Respiratory droplets from coughs and sneezes of infected people
- Touching your eyes, nose or mouth after touching contaminated surfaces
- Sharing dishes, utensils, personal items
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

8. In which of these places could you get infected by the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [Multiple checkbox] If one wishes to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- At work/ school/ university
- At home
- On public transport/ in a taxi
- In shopping centres,
- At restaurants, bars/taverns
- Public toilets
- At sports matches
- On a farm
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

9. What methods are you aware of that can be used to treat a person who is infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [Multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- No specific treatment or vaccine is available to treat COVID-19
- In severely infected patients, isolation and treatment at hospitals
- Traditional Medicines
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

10. What methods are you aware of that can be used to destroy the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [Multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- Wiping surfaces with disinfectants
- Washing hands with soap for 20 seconds
- Using alcohol-containing hand sanitiser to clean hands
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

11. What methods are **you** using to stop yourself and others from getting infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct.

[Multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- Keeping oneself clean such as (washing/cleaning hands frequently, washing/cleaning clothes frequently)
- Avoid touching my eyes, nose and mouth
- Keeping my home clean, including cleaning surfaces frequently
- Avoid close contact with people suffering from a fever and cough
- Social distancing (reducing the amount of contact you have with other people; keeping at least an arm's length distance between myself and people who are coughing or sneezing)
- Cleaning my cell phone/computer regularly
- Avoid spitting in public
- Avoid travelling if you have a cough or fever
- Covering my mouth and nose with a tissue or flexed elbow while coughing or sneezing
- Avoiding close contact with people when I have a cough or fever
- Cleaning shared spaces and objects in shared spaces such as desks, tables, phones, and door handles regularly
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

12. When should you wash/clean your hands to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [Multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- Before touching your face
- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- After using the toilet
- Before and after changing nappies
- Before making food
- Before eating
- Before and after visiting or taking care of someone who is sick
- After touching door handles
- After being in crowded places
- After handling animals including pets
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

13. What should you do if you or someone you know has symptoms of the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Tick as many responses as you think are correct. [Multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- Phone the doctor/clinic
- The sick person should self-isolate at home to prevent spreading the virus to others
- The sick person should keep a distance of at an arm's length from other people
- The sick person should use tissues when coughing or sneezing and throw them away immediately in a separate rubbish bag/ closed bin

- The sick person should wash/clean their hands after coughing or sneezing
- Phone the free emergency number from the department of health or the hospital if symptoms are not better or get worse in a few days
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

14. Please indicate any questions about the coronavirus (COVID-19) here that you would like to pose to Scientists and /or health care professionals.

15. Please make any other comments related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) that you would like to bring to the attention of scientists or medical practitioners.

16. There is a lot of misinformation about the coronavirus (COVID-19) circulating on various social media platforms, online news sites and others. Please list or detail any information here that you that you have heard or seen and think might be untrue or which you are not sure about.

17. I get most of my information about the coronavirus from: select all answer that are relevant [multiple checkbox] If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- The News (TV or Radio)
- Newspapers
- The Government
- Clinics
- My employer
- My church/faith community
- My family
- Friends
- Facebook
- Twitter
- WhatsApp
- Instagram
- Information leaflets/ posters
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

18. I trust the information about this coronavirus (COVID-19) that is being reported in the news (TV, Radio, newspapers):

- 1 – Strongly disagree
- 2 – Disagree
- 3 – Neither agree or disagree
- 4 – Agree
- 5 – Strongly agree

19. I trust information being shared about the coronavirus (COVID-19) that is being shared on social media (Facebook and Twitter):

- 1 – Strongly disagree
- 2 – Disagree
- 3 – Neither agree or disagree

- 4 – Agree
- 6 – Strongly agree

20. I trust information about the coronavirus (COVID-19) that is being shared with me on WhatsApp:

- 1 – Strongly disagree
- 2 – Disagree
- 3 – Neither agree or disagree
- 4 – Agree
- 5 – Strongly agree

21. Who do you trust most about information on the coronavirus (COVID-19)?

22. How would you prefer to receive information about the coronavirus (COVID-19)?  
Select all answers that are relevant [multiple checkbox]. If you wish to make any additional comments please do so under the box marked 'Other'

- The News (TV or Radio)
- Newspapers
- The Government
- Clinics
- My Employer
- My Church/faith community
- My family
- Friends
- Facebook
- Twitter
- WhatsApp
- Instagram
- Information Leaflets
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey.

If you or someone you know is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 call the free emergency number 0800 029 999

For more information on the coronavirus please see:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

<http://www.health.gov.za/index.php/outbreaks/145-corona-virus-outbreak/465-corona-virus-outbreak>