

FOREWORD

Given the current COVID-19 pandemic the latest CAA notices (PEL-2020-003, PEL-2020-004, and (A1741/20 NOTAMN ...COVID-19) allow for ATO's to resume operations within the current regulatory framework, recreational flying is still not allowed. ATO's are allowed to provide "no contact" training provided they put into place procedures to manage their activities with regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. After completing our risk assessment (Annexure A) SAHPA has come up with the following COVID 19 action plan in line with regulations set out by the national government. It is applicable for Alert level 3 and lower. Should any areas of operation be moved back to Alert Level 4 or above, then these operations will seek advice from SAHPA on how to proceed further.

COVID 19

What is COVID-19?

Human Coronaviruses are common throughout the world. There are many different coronaviruses identified in animals but only a small number of these can cause disease in humans.

On 7 January 2020, 'Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2' (SARS-CoV-2) was confirmed as the causative agent of 'Coronavirus Disease 2019' or COVID-19. The majority of the case-patients initially identified were dealers and vendors at a seafood, poultry and live wildlife market in China. Since then, the virus has spread to more than 100 countries, including South Africa.

Who is most at risk?

Currently, travellers to areas where there is ongoing sustained transmission of COVID-19 are at greatest risk of infection. Furthermore, the elderly, individuals with co-morbidities and healthcare workers have been found to be at a higher risk of death.

How is it transmitted?

While the first cases probably involved exposure to an animal source, the virus now seems to be spreading from person-to-person.

The spread of the disease is thought to happen mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, similar to how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread. Thus far, the majority of cases have occurred in people with close physical contact to cases and healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Current symptoms reported for patients with COVID-19 have included mild to severe respiratory illness with cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or fever.

The complete clinical picture with regard to COVID-19 is still not fully clear. Reported illnesses have ranged from infected people with little to no symptoms to people being severely ill and dying.

How is COVID-19 treated?

Treatment is supportive (providing oxygen for patients with shortness of breath or treating a fever, for example). To date, there is no specific antiviral treatment available. Antibiotics do not treat viral infections. However, antibiotics may be required if a bacterial secondary infection develops.

How can you prevent infection?

The following can provide protection against infection from Coronaviruses and many other viruses that are more common in South Africa:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay at home when you are sick and try and keep a distance from others at home.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a flexed elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the bin.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

What we are doing in South Africa?

On 23 March 2020, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a new measure to combat the spread of the Covid-19 coronavirus in South Africa – a three-week nationwide lockdown with severe restrictions on travel and movement, supported by the South African National Defence Force – from midnight on Thursday, 26 March, to midnight on Thursday, 16 April. The President said more needed to be done to avoid “an enormous catastrophe” among the population.

In essence, this meant people would only be allowed to leave their homes to buy food, seek medical help or under other extreme circumstances.

The lockdown follows government regulations that limited public gatherings, travel from high-risk countries and the sale of alcohol.

In addition, borders were closed to reduce the rate of infection from those travelling into South Africa from other countries. A quarantine was also enforced on inbound travellers and returning citizens.

Latest measures

On Wednesday, 1 April, Minister of Health, Dr Zweli Mkhize, launched 60 new mobile laboratories to boost the country’s capacity to test for COVID-19.

The sampling and testing units, procured by the National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS), will be deployed nationwide to all priority districts and metros.

10,000 community health care workers will be deployed across the country for door-to-door household screening. Each province has been requested to start working on this strategy by deploying provincial community healthcare workers, with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment, to undertake a house-to-house programme of “no-touch” screening for Covid-19 symptoms and to refer symptomatic people to clinics for testing.

In addition, PEPFAR-funded District Support Partners have been instructed to support provinces in this programme.

South Africa currently has the capacity to conduct 5,000 tests for COVID-19 daily. However, with the addition of mobile testing units, combined with 180 testing sites and 320 testing units across the country, this number will now increase six-fold.

1. INFECTION PREVENTION CONTROL PROCEDURE

- All staff to undergo training on COVID 19 infection prevention control measures and will be required to sign a declaration stating that they have been sufficiently trained on such infection prevention control measures. (ANNEXURE E)

- Additional training recourses are available at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/training/online-training>

<https://www.sentrient.com.au/covid-19-coronavirus-courses>

We encourage instructors to use the above where necessary.

- The COVID 19 Infection prevention control training will contain the following subjects:
 - Social distancing and the importance of it
 - Daily screening process
 - Sanitization of equipment and common surfaces
 - Waste management
 - Record keeping

2. PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

Screening of staff, students or visitors prior to entering the site.

- All staff, students and visitors will need to undergo the compulsory screening procedure prior to accessing the site or sharing school transportation facilities. (See Annexure B)

Covid-19 compliance officer

- In Addition to SAHPA's Compliance officer, each individual school operating under the SAHPA ATO will need to appoint a COVID 19 compliance officer as per annexure C prior to resuming training activities. (The owner or CFI may also be the compliance officer)

Declaration of compliance

- In addition to the SAHPA chairman's declaration of compliance each individual school owner operating under the SAHPA ATO will need to complete a declaration of compliance as per annexure D prior to resuming training activities

Making sure our workplaces and flying sites are clean and hygienic

- Surfaces (e.g. desks and tables) and objects (e.g. telephones, helmets, harnesses, brake toggles) will be wiped with disinfectant regularly
- Why? Because contamination on surfaces touched by employees, students and visitors is one of the main ways that COVID-19 spreads

Promoting regular and thorough hand-washing by staff, students and visitors

- Placing sanitising hand rub dispensers at strategic places and making sure these dispensers are regularly refilled
- Displaying posters promoting hand-washing and combining this with other communication measures where possible
- Making sure that staff, students, and visitors have access to places where they can wash their hands with soap and water

Promoting adequate social distancing always as per government regulations

- Staff, Students and visitors need to Maintain at least 2m separation at all times.
- No more than 50 persons will be allowed on a takeoff site at one time.

Promoting good respiratory hygiene in the workplace

- Displaying posters promoting respiratory hygiene and combining with other communications where possible.
- Ensuring that face masks are always worn.

Briefing our staff, students and visitors on the dangers of COVID-19 spreading.

- Anyone with even a mild cough or low-grade fever (37.3C or more) needs to stay at home. They should also stay home if they have had to take simple medications, such as paracetamol/acetaminophen, ibuprofen, or aspirin, which may mask symptoms of infection as per WHO guidelines.
- Keep communicating and promoting the message that people need to stay at home if they have any flu-like symptoms.
- Displaying posters with this message in our work and flying sites, combining this with other communication channels commonly used at our School.
- Continually developing campaign material by health stakeholders to promote this message.

3. THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS ARE TRAVELING

Before travelling:

- Ensure staff and students have the latest information on areas where COVID-19 is spreading. You can find this at: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/>
- Ensure all staff and students have undergone the screening process in Annexure B before embarking on any travel.

While travelling:

- Staff and students to ensure that maximum passenger capacity of 70% of total capacity as per government regulations are not exceeded.
- Staff and students are encouraged to wash/sanitize their hands regularly.
- All staff and students should comply with any restrictions on travel.

When our staff and students return from travelling:

- If they develop even a mild cough or low-grade fever (i.e. a temperature of 37.3C or more) they should stay at home and self-isolate. This means avoiding close contact (two metre or nearer) with other people, including family members. In the event of developing symptoms, staff and students should contact the School and the national Toll-Free Hotline on 0800 029 999 and provide the details of their recent travel and symptoms.
- Should anyone test positive for COVID 19 within 14 days of sharing school transport they need to make immediate contact with the school.

4. SURVEILLANCE AND CASE DEFINITION FOR COVID 19

The rationale for surveillance for 2019-nCoV

Surveillance for 2019-nCoV is essential to permit early recognition of suspected cases, early diagnosis, containment, and prevention of further cases.

Who should be tested for 2019-nCoV?

Presently, persons who should undergo testing for 2019-nCoV have identifiable factors as described below:

Surveillance case definitions for persons under investigation (PUI) who should be tested for 2019-nCoV

Employees and students with an acute respiratory infection (sudden onset of at least one of the following: fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath) requiring hospitalisation or not

AND

In the 14 days prior to the onset of symptoms, met at least one of the following epidemiological criteria:

- Were in close contact with a confirmed or probable case of 2019-nCoV infection;

OR

- Had a history of travel to areas with presumed ongoing community transmission of 2019-nCoV; i.e. China, South Korea, Singapore, Japan, Iran, Hong Kong, Italy, Vietnam, Taiwan, New York, etc.

OR

- Worked in or attended a healthcare facility where patients with 2019-nCoV infections were being treated.

A confirmed case: is a person with a laboratory-confirmation of infection with the 2019-nCoV.

5. CASE MANAGEMENT FOR COVID 19

Current plan if someone becomes ill with suspected COVID-19 at the Flying School.

- Employees and students with signs and symptoms of possible COVID-19 infection will contact the **national hotlines: 0800 111 132 and 0800 029 999.**
- Any staff, student or visitors who record a moderate temperature above 37,3 C will be asked to wait in the isolation area for 15 min and will thereafter be re-tested. Should the second screening indicate a lesser temperature the staff, student or visitor will be allowed on site after completing the rest of the screening procedure, should the second temperature recording indicate a temperature above 37,3C, the staff, student or visitor will be asked to leave the site and contact the national hotline on 0800 111 132.
- The identified possible infected persons will be supported, without inviting stigma and discrimination. This could include persons who have recently travelled to an area reporting cases or other persons who have chronic conditions (e.g. diabetes, heart and lung disease, old age, HIV, etc.) that put them at higher risk of infection.
- The school will liaise with the local healthcare authorities for referral according to the South African Department of Health's National Guidelines.
- The contacts of the identified possible infected person will be managed according to the South African Department of Health's National Guidelines.

6. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Waste such masks, gloves, sanitising wipes are to be disposed off into a designated closed bin belonging to the school.
- Personnel are to wash/sanitise their hands before and after handling the designated waste bin
- Waste from the designated bin is to be removed from site and double-bagged before insertion into a municipality collected bin. Municipality bins to be placed outside for collection on day of collection by the municipality
- Other sanitising waste (e.g. chemical spray bottles) are to be disposed as per manufacturer recommendations

7. RECORD KEEPING

- All screening records need to be filed by the compliance officer and kept for a minimum of 90 Days to assist in possible contact tracing
- Screening records are to be electronically captured on a daily basis. Should the need for contact tracing arise, these electronic copies will be immediately provided to the sahpa office
- Records of any COVID-19 related prevention measures (e.g. equipment sanitisation) are to be kept by the school

8. ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES

- Landings to take place within the designated landing zone for the take-off site from which the flight departed.
- Powered flights may do a "touch and go" at another landing zone however the flight must be terminated at the designated landing zone from which the flight departed.
- Should the need for a skills test arise, prior approval needs to be granted by the SACAA and the application process for this involves emailing a formal request to SAHPA who will then

apply for such an approval on behalf of the person/instructor/school. **NB. Only pilots whose licenses expired BEFORE the start of the lockdown will need a skills test**

9. DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION PROCEDURE

- A copy of this document will be available on the sahpa website (www.sahpa.co.za)
- A copy of this action plan will be distributed to all staff, students and visitors and always needs to be kept relatively available.
- In conjunction to the above this document should be made available to inspectors upon request.

ANNEXURE A

Document Number: SAHPA 2020-001
 Date: 1 June 2020
 ANNEXURE A

Rev: 3

RISK ASSESSMENT

Actions should be taken based on the risk score. Assign a priority (very high, high, medium or low) based on existing and required control measures, in consultation with your Covid 19 compliance officer.

PART I		General aspects of the work environment and duties or activities								
COMPANY:	South African Hang gliding and Paragliding Association	DATE OF ASSESSMENT:	31/05/2020	APPROVED BY:	Pete Wallenda					
ASSESSOR NAME:	Barry Pederson	SIGNATURE:		LOCATION:	All sites					
SCOPE OF WORK:	All training with regards to PG, PPG, PPT and Hang gliding	REVIEW DATE:	31/05/2021							
PART II		LIKELIHOOD OF EXPOSURE TO SARS-CoV-2								
CONSEQUENCE OF EXPOSURE TO SARS-CoV-2	Severe Fatal or permanent disability	Unlikely Not very possible to occur in the near future	Possible Feasible to occur in the near future	Likely Very possible to occur in the near future						
	Moderate Medical attention >14 days and complete recovery	Medium	High	Very high						
	Negligible Near miss or unlikely to happen	Low	Medium	High						
		Very low	Low	Medium						
	Keep monitoring the process.	Keep the process going, but monitor regularly and consider a control plan	Keep the process going, and implement a control plan as soon as possible	Investigate the process and implement controls immediately	Stop the process and implement controls					
PART III		Identification of risk and proposed preventative measures to reduce risk								
HAZARD	WHO MAY BE AT RISK	TASK or ACTIVITY	ROUTE OF EXPOSURE	HEALTH EFFECTS	FINAL RISK LEVEL = C x L	EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES	PROCEED WITH EXISTING CONTROLS	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
COVID 19	All Personnel	ALL Training and administration Except for Tandem training	Contact with persons, surface, vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.	VERY LOW	Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PG Endorsements	Contact with persons, surface, vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.	LOW	Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020

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COVID 19	All Personnel	PG Basic License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PG Sport License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PG Safety Course	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Endorsements	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Basic License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Sport License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Safety Course	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020

Document Number: SAHPA COVID 2020-001

Date: 2 June 2020

Rev: 4

COVID 19	All Personnel	PG Basic License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A asymptomatic to Fatal.	1					Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PG Sport License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A asymptomatic to Fatal.	1					Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PG Safety Course	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A asymptomatic to Fatal.	1					Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Endorsements	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A asymptomatic to Fatal.	1					Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Basic License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A asymptomatic to Fatal.	1					Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Sport License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A asymptomatic to Fatal.	1					Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	PPG Safety Course	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A asymptomatic to Fatal.	1					Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020

Document Number: SAHPA 2020-001
Date: 1 June 2020

Rev: 3

COVID 19	All Personnel	HG Endorsements	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.	L						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	HG Novice License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.	L						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	HG A/B/C License	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.	L						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces regularly and social distancing	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020
COVID 19	All Personnel	HG Safety Course	Contact with persons, surface vapour or droplets	A symptomatic to Fatal.	L						Wearing of masks, washing/sanitizing hands and surfaces	YES	Sanitizing equipment, Daily screening	All Personnel	1/06/2020

KEY: C – consequence (severe, moderate, negligible); L (unlikely, possible, likely)

EXAMPLE: APPLYING THE HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS FOR COVID-19

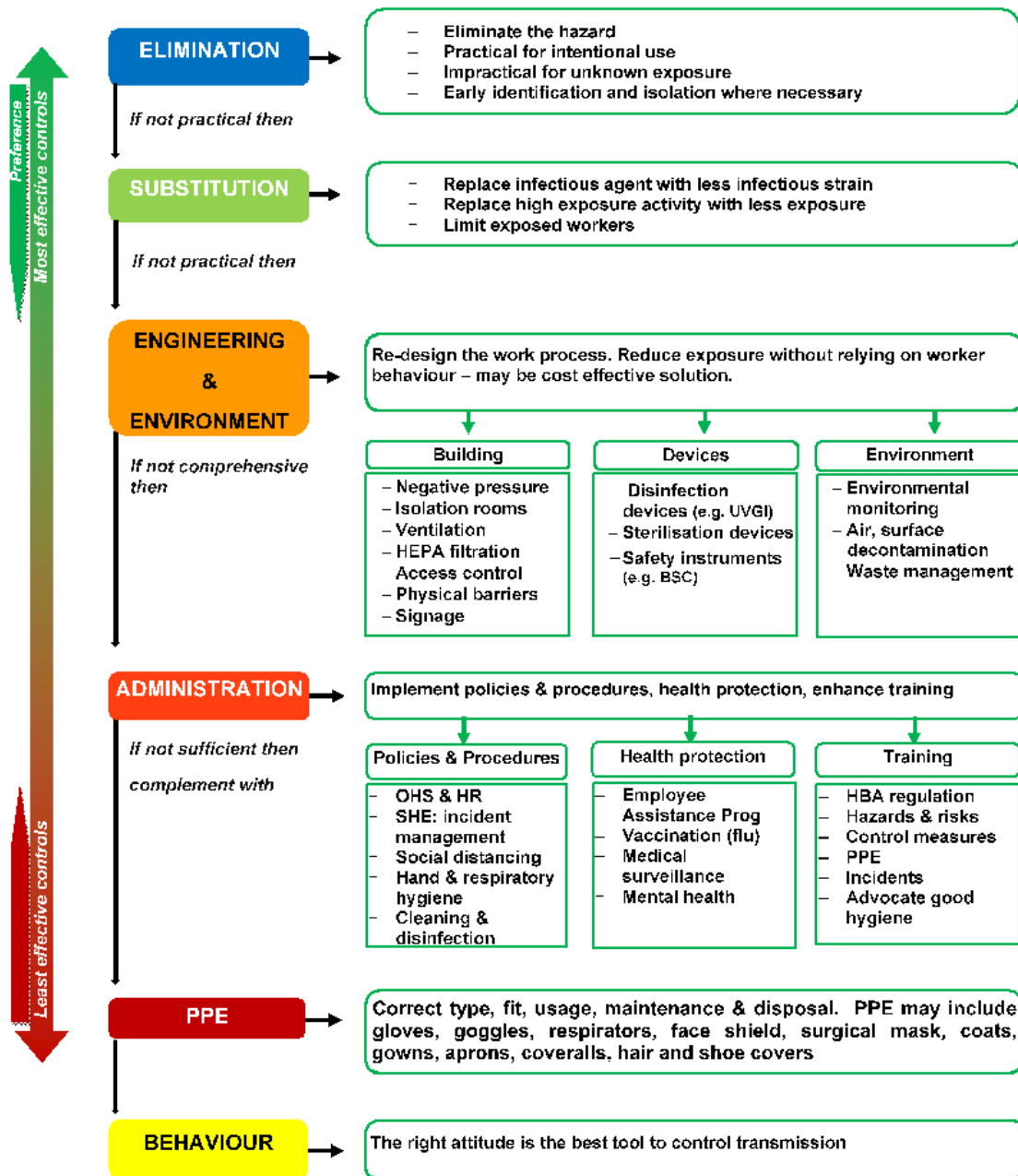


Figure 1. Flow diagram illustrating the fundamental pillars of the hierarchy of controls and possible recommendations.