



**CIRCULAR H 39/2020**

**TO: DDG: CHIEF OF OPERATIONS  
CHIEF DIRECTORS; DIRECTORS AND HEADS OF INSTITUTIONS  
MANAGER: CAPE MEDICAL DEPOT  
HEAD OF HEALTH: CITY OF CAPE TOWN  
RESPONSIBLE PHARMACIST: CHRONIC DISPENSING UNIT**

**N.B. FOR CIRCULATION TO ALL MEDICAL, PARAMEDICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL AND  
NURSING PERSONNEL**

**COVID-19 TREATMENT GUIDELINES UPDATE (VERSION 3: 29 MARCH 2020)**

**THIS CIRCULAR IS A FOLLOW UP TO THE CIRCULAR H36/2020: COVID-19 TREATMENT  
GUIDELINES**

A COVID-19 Ministerial Advisory Committee has been set up to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. A sub-committee, which includes representation from National Department of Health (NDOH), National Essential Medicines List Committee (NEMLC), National Institute for Communicable Disease (NICD), private and public sector, etc., is looking at treatment guidelines. The guidelines are being dealt with as a matter of great urgency.

The sub-committee is aware that evidence is still emerging and thus, the guidelines will be updated on a regular basis, as appropriate.

Attached, please find:

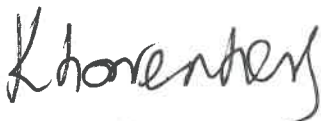
**Clinical Management of Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 Disease: Version 3 (27th  
March 2020)**

In the event that there are variances between recommendations in the hyper-links-links referred to in the document and the latest NDOH Standard Treatment Guidelines and Essential Medicines List (EML) recommendations or the WCGH Provincial Code List, the EML and Provincial Code list should be followed where relevant.

To Note:

- There is at present no current published peer-reviewed evidence from randomised controlled trials to recommend any specific medicine treatment for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infections<sup>1</sup>.
- There is no current convincing published peer-reviewed evidence to support the use of any medicine or vaccine to prevent COVID-19 infection<sup>1</sup>. Prevention consists of non-pharmaceutical interventions, such as good hand hygiene, cough etiquette and social distancing<sup>1</sup>.

Your co-operation in this matter is appreciated.



**MS KIM LOWENHERZ**

**DIRECTOR: PHARMACY SERVICES**

**DATE:** 36/03/20

**Reference:**

1. NICD and NDOH. Clinical management of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 disease Version 3 (27 March 2020). National institute for Communicable Diseases South Africa. 2020.