



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

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Day 97

COVID-19 Sentinel Survey Starts Soon



Botswana identified its first case of coronavirus (COVID-19) associated with community transmission at the beginning of April 2020, after a local woman had contact with a male who had travel history to a European country.

The country which the male counterpart came from also experienced large volumes of imported cases, especially at point of entries, which raised key questions of whether they might have had contact with the local population.

Continues on Page 2

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

11,694,766

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COVID 19 CASE REPORT

06 July 2020

55
Total Confirmed
Botswana Cases

23
Active Cases
(Botswana)

31
Recovered
Botswana

1
Deceased

39

New positive tests since 03 July 2020
(1 Botswana / 38 Foreign Nationals)
* Currently in quarantine

243
Transferred out

28,981
Border Tests

18,879
Local Tests

47,860
Total Tests

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

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The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.

COVID-19 Sentinel Survey Starts Soon

From Page 1

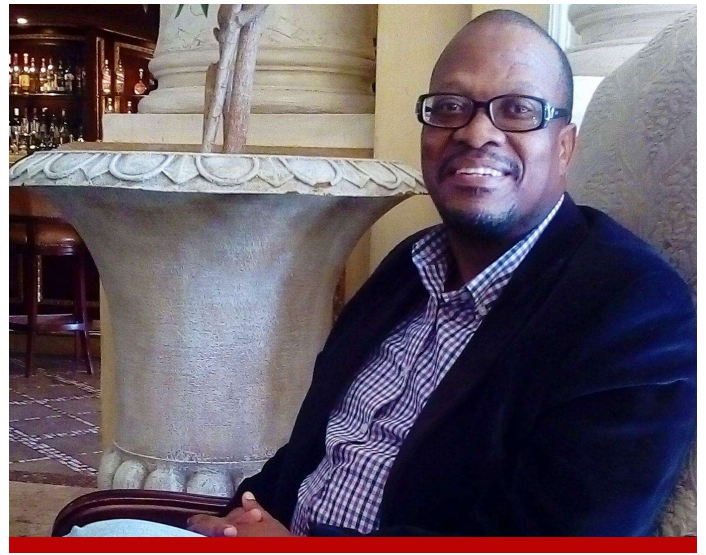
The Ministry of Health and Wellness, in conjunction with The Presidential Task Force Team, decided to embark on a sentinel survey as an intervention to establish if there is a prevalence of coronavirus in the country. This is a sample targeted testing approach in high traffic areas.

Speaking to the Presidential Task Force Daily Bulletin, The Task Force Team Scientific Advisor, Dr Mogomotsi Matshaba, said "COVID-19 cases identified through this sentinel surveillance system would help assess if there is community transmission in the county."

He said the use of sentinel surveillance will assist to comprehend the level of community transmission of COVID-19 and guide how the country responds and implement mitigating measures.

Dr Matshaba said they are targeting areas such as malls and Bus/Taxi ranks around the country. He said the survey is scheduled to start soon and is expected to take about 3 months. He said preventing transmission to control the spread of the virus is the main objective of managing the spread.

He further reiterated that identification of cases, if there are any, from this survey will help confirm community transmission of COVID-19 in Botswana.



Dr Mogomotsi Matshaba

The process will obtain 15 samples a day from identified areas in a day from people who are likely to be transmitters of the virus.

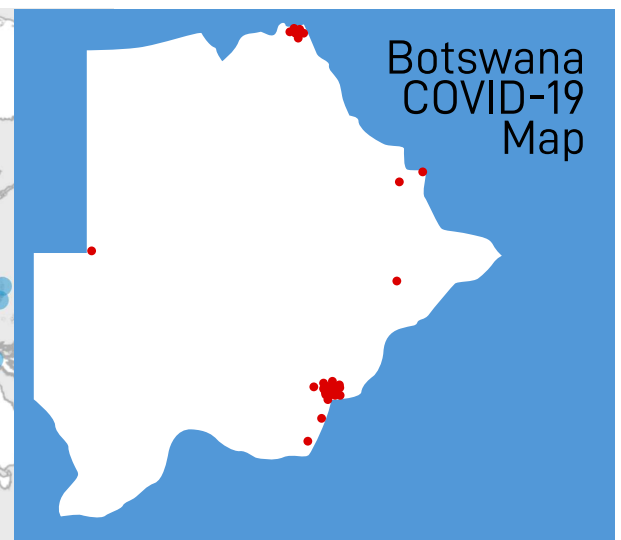
Dr Matshaba described such people as those who interact frequently with the public. He said some of them include hawkers, bus/ taxi drivers, conductors, shop attendants and security personnel among others. Other people who will form part of the survey are ports of entry personnel across all disciplines.

Dr Matshaba said the survey, which is expected to take 3 months, will cover about 43 000 people.

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| USA - 2,966,409 | China - 84,910 | Eswatini - 1,056 |
| UK - 287,872 | Egypt - 76,222 | Mozambique - 1,012 |
| Spain - 252,130 | Ethiopia - 5,846 | Zimbabwe - 734 |
| Italy - 241,956 | Madagascar - 3,472 | Namibia - 539 |
| France - 206,072 | Zambia - 1,895 | Angola - 386 |
| South Africa - 205,721 | Malawi - 1,818 | Lesotho - 91 |



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Sporting Activities Given A Permission To Re-open



Mr Sedimo

Botswana National Sports Commission Chief Executive Officer Mr Falcon Sedimo says sporting activities have been given a green light to reopen, provided they follow COVID-19 protocols and guidelines.

He however said Football, Rugby and Netball players will have to wait a little longer. "We remain hopeful however that we shall overcome this hurdle and see how these sporting codes can be allowed back to the field", narrated the CEO.

During a media brief over the Weekend on Botswana Television, Botswana National Sports Commission CEO, said various sporting codes can allow players to meet and train together and do fitness sessions however they must follow social distancing guidelines.

He cautioned that as much as they have allowed some sporting codes to commence, spectators are not allowed to attend the games as per the instruction by the Director of Health Services.

He also said BNSC has opened sporting facilities like the national stadium to allow those who are permitted by law to use them. He however said they should ensure they are complying with the COVID-19 protocols and guidelines.

On another note, Mr Sedimo said BNSC is still engaging with their sporting affiliates on how they will hold this year's Annual General Meeting. He said they have 42 registered affiliates of which the total number of attendants of the AGM would be around 175 which is not acceptable. He said social distancing measures should be adhered to, in order to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

He said with the need to social distance, they might have to resort to video conferencing platforms like Zoom which will provide a strategic approach for the meeting.



STOP THE VIRUS! WASH YOUR HANDS.



Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.



Lather your hands by rubbing them together with soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.



Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy birthday" song from beginning to end twice.



Rinse hands well under clean, running water.



Dry hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

Keeping hands clean is one of the most important things we can do to stop the spread of **COVID-19** and stay healthy

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WHO discontinues hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir treatment arms for COVID-19.

World Health Organization has accepted the recommendation from the Solidarity Trial's International Steering Committee to discontinue the trial's hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir arms. The Solidarity Trial was established by WHO to find an effective COVID-19 treatment for hospitalized patients.

An article on W.H.O's website states that the International Steering Committee formulated the recommendation in light of the evidence for hydroxychloroquine vs standard-of-care and for lopinavir/ritonavir vs standard-of-care from the Solidarity trial interim results, and from a review of the evidence from all trials presented at the 1-2 July WHO Summit on COVID-19 research and innovation.

These interim trial results shows that hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir produce little or no reduction in the mortality of hospitalized COVID-19 patients when compared to standard of care. Solidarity trial investigators will interrupt the trials with immediate effect.

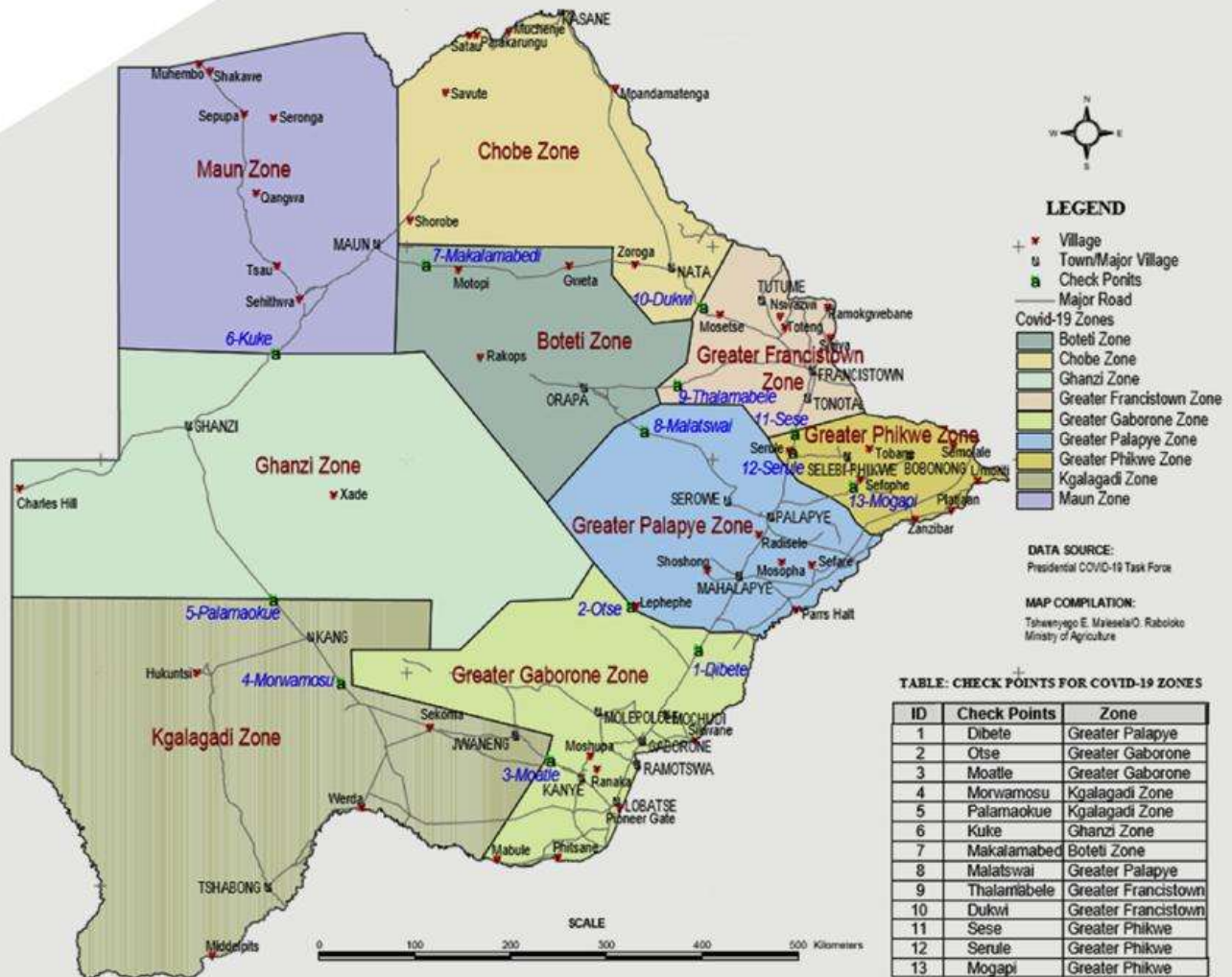
For each of the drugs, the interim results do not provide solid evidence of increased mortality. There were, however, some associated safety signals in the clinical laboratory findings of the add-on Discovery trial, a participant in the Solidarity trial. These will also be reported in the peer-reviewed publication.

This decision applies only to the conduct of the Solidarity trial in hospitalized patients and does not affect the possible evaluation in other studies of hydroxychloroquine or lopinavir/ritonavir in non-hospitalized patients or as pre- or post-exposure prophylaxis for COVID-19. The interim Solidarity results are now being readied for peer-reviewed publication.



Republic of Botswana

COVID-19 ZONAL MAP



KNOW YOUR ZONES

Extreme Social Distancing ended on Wednesday signaling the end of the three phases which were introduced to curb the spread of the virus in the country. The Presidential Task Force has developed a surveillance plan to monitor the disease. This resulted in the different zones to create cohorts for easier monitoring, easier tracing of contacts of positive cases and to avoid uncontrollable spread across the country.

The Inter-Zonal permit is therefore a requirement for people to travel from one zone to the other. Thirteen law enforcement check points have been designated across the country to monitor movements of people.

The nine (9) COVID -19 Zones are as follows;

1. Greater Gaborone zone
2. Greater Palapye zone
3. Greater Selibe Phikwe Zone
4. Greater Francistown
5. Boteti zone
6. Chobe zone
7. Maun zone
8. Gantsi zone
9. Kgalagadi zone

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Republic of Botswana

**CORONAVIRUS IS STILL
A SERIOUS THREAT!**

FROM "I" TO "US"...

**Team building means marching
in step. Let US all:**

- Sanitise.
- Maintain social distancing.
- Wear masks.
- Remember to bSafe. Use the app.

Own your space. Own your health!

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