



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 95 | Wednesday, 12 August 2020

GREATER GABORONE ZONE UNDER LOCKDOWN

Day 132

COVID-19 Discharge Protocol Redefined

Botswana has redefined discharge protocol of COVID-19 positive patients in isolation centers. Giving Botswana's COVID-19 update on Botswana Television, Presidential (COVID-19) Task Force Team Acting National Coordinator Professor Mosepele Mosepele said they have reflected scientifically on the understanding of viral infectivity of COVID-19.

Professor Mosepele said the new developments and findings in the scientific community have revealed

Continues on Page 2

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

20,152,405

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 11/08/20



COVID 19 CASE REPORT

07 August 2020

251

Total Confirmed
Batswana Cases

169

Active Cases
(Batswana)

80

Recovered
Batswana

2

Deceased

172

New positive tests since 01 August 2020
(74 Batswana / 98 Foreign Nationals)

815

Transferred out

50,394

Border Tests

29,769

Local Tests

80,163

Total Tests

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

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

From Page 1

that once infected with COVID-19, the virus that is detected beyond 10 days following infection is a DEAD VIRUS.

He said following this scientific finding, all individuals with COVID-19 in Botswana, will be declared "a recovery" 10 days after their initial positive test for COVID-19, so long as they are also assessed to be medically well by a licensed medical practitioner.

The Acting Coordinator said World Health Organization shared with

the member states interim guidance on the clinical management of COVID-19 and provided updated recommendations on the criteria for discharging patients from isolation.

He further said through dialogue with the global health governing body, it is evident that COVID-19 patients whose symptoms have resolved may still test positive for the COVID-19 virus while

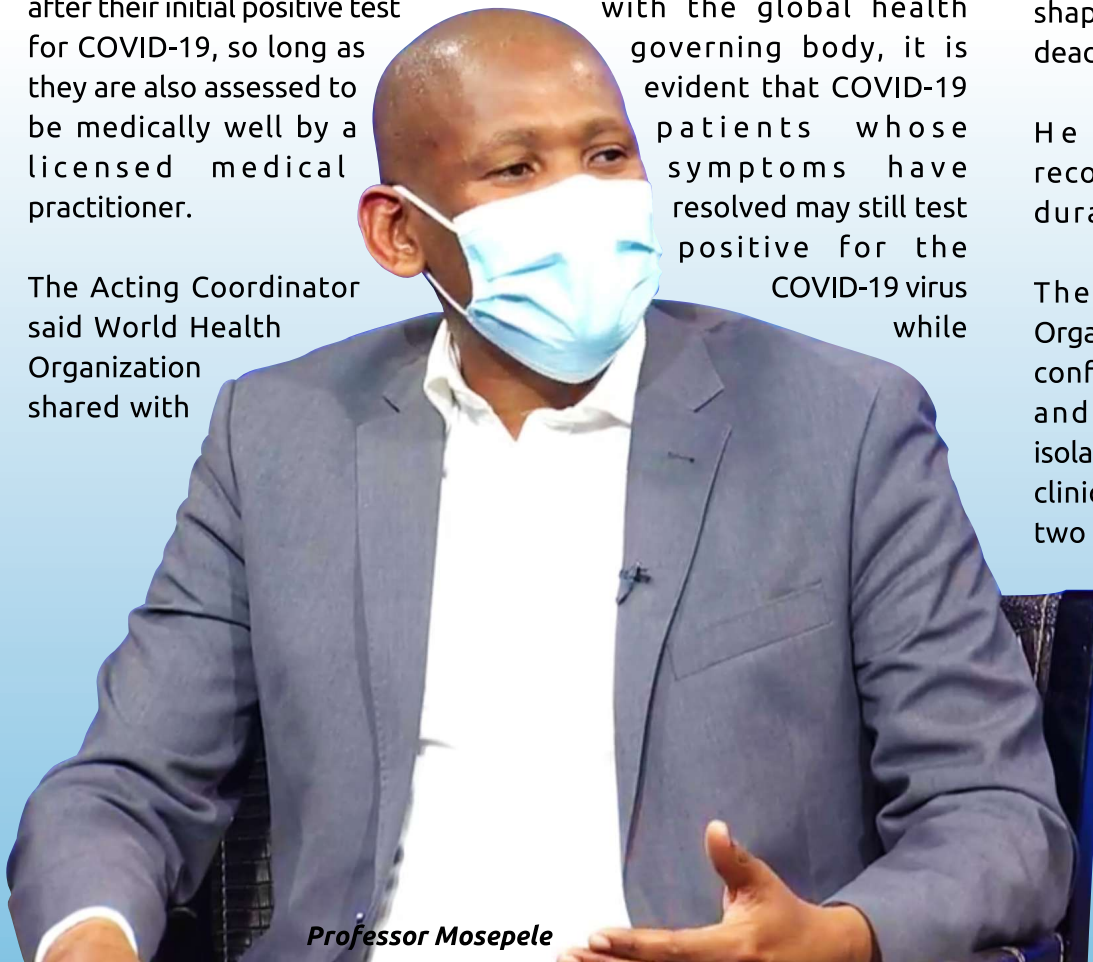
they are unlikely to be infectious, meaning they cannot be able to transmit the virus to another person.

Professor Mosepele said the new development means there will be more Recovery cases this week as most patients are in a better shape and have no-signs of the deadly virus.

He said the latest recommendation will reduce duration of hospital stay.

The initial World Health Organisation recommendation to confirm clearance of the virus, and allow discharge from isolation, required a patient to be clinically recovered and to have two negative RT-PCR results on sequential samples taken at least 24 hours apart.

The recommendation was based on knowledge and experience with similar coronaviruses, including those that cause SARS and MERS.

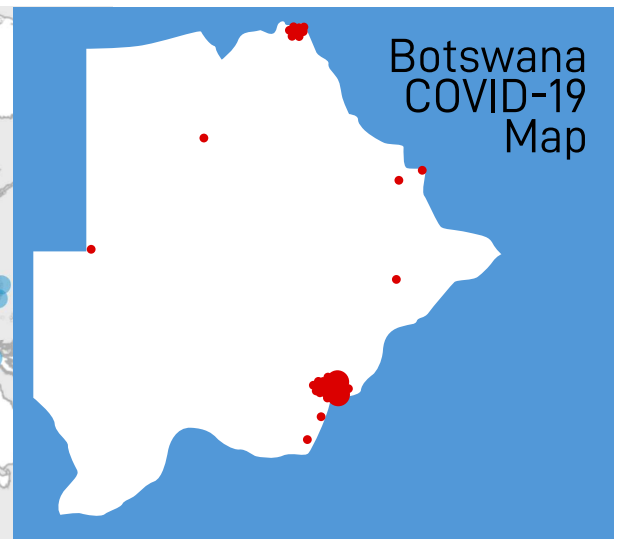


Professor Mosepele

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 11/08/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 5,113,906	Egypt - 95,666	Malawi - 4,674
South Africa - 563,598	China - 88,939	Eswatini - 3,309
Spain - 326,612	Ethiopia - 24,175	Namibia - 3,229
UK - 313,394	Madagascar - 13,317	Mozambique - 2,411
Italy - 251,237	Zambia - 8,275	Angola - 1,679
France - 239,355	Zimbabwe - 4,748	Lesotho - 781



**Botswana
COVID-19
Map**

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

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



Botswana records 172 New Positive Cases

There is an unprecedented increase in COVID-19 cases in Botswana. As at the 7th of August the country recorded 172 new positive cases of COVID-19, with majority of the cases emanating from schools in the Greater Gaborone Zone. The recorded cases consist of 74 Batswana and 98 foreign nationals residing in Botswana.

The Director of Health Services Dr Malaki Tshipayagae and COVID -19 Task Force Team Acting National Coordinator Professor Mosepele Mosepele briefed the nation and highlighted that the new numbers brings the total confirmed number to 251 with 169 Active cases and 2 deaths.

Botswana has conducted a total of 80,163 tests. 50,394 tests were done at different Point of entries and 815 positive of them were voluntarily transferred out to their respective countries. The two Task Force members said 29,769 tests were conducted at various districts.

Dr Tshipayagae said the unprecedented spike of new cases means that there is local transmission of the coronavirus in Botswana. He urged the nation to follow the COVID-19 guidelines and protocols to the latter.

He said people must avoid congregating in crowded spaces and should at all times wear masks, wash hands with water and soap and avoid travelling unless it is absolutely necessary.



THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

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



WHO Discussing New Covid-19 Vaccine With Russia

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and Russian health authorities are discussing the process for possible WHO prequalification for its newly approved Covid-19 vaccine.

President Vladimir Putin said yesterday that Russia had become the first country in the world to grant regulatory approval to a COVID-19 vaccine after less than two months of human testing, a move hailed by Moscow as evidence of its scientific prowess.

"We are in close contact with Russian health authorities and discussions are ongoing with respect to possible WHO prequalification of the vaccine, but again prequalification of any vaccine includes the rigorous review and assessment of all required safety and efficacy data," WHO spokesperson Tarik Jasarevic told a U.N. briefing in Geneva, referring to clinical trials.

"This morning, for the first time in the world, a vaccine against the new coronavirus was registered" in Russia, he said during a televised video conference call with government ministers.

"One of my daughters had this vaccine. I think in this sense she took part in the experiment," Putin said.

Russia has been pushing hard to quickly develop a coronavirus vaccine and said earlier this month it hoped to launch mass production within weeks and turn out "several million" doses per month by next year.

News24



Republic of Botswana

COVID-19 ZONAL MAP



KNOW YOUR ZONES

Extreme Social Distancing ended on 20th May 2020 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

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Treasure Mothobi

Content Producers: Lorato Okaile | Donnell Kutlape | Chandapiwa Baputaki | Fortune Ketlhaetse