



**NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE ON**  
**CORONAVIRUS**  
**UPDATE ON COVID-19 IN THE COUNTRY AND**  
**RESPONSE MEASURES, AS AT DECEMBER 8, 2020**

**DAY: 267**

**Brief No: 259**

**Good afternoon members of the press and welcome to our daily Covid-19 briefing in the country.**

**Fellow Kenyans,**

Since the Coronavirus disease struck our country it has made the lives of many Kenyans unbearable. However, we are glad that Majority of Kenyans have made that critical decision to fight the disease head on. This means they have

ensured that they adhere strictly to the containment measures that we here at the Ministry have issued, to keep their loved ones safe and secure. However, for many of those who have contracted the virus, I am glad to note that they have sought quick medical attention. We believe this is why we have been able to register many recoveries.

It is however unfortunate and regrettable that in some instances we have lost lives and we continue to do so every day as a result of this deadly virus. This is one thing that saddens us. We however are doing everything within our powers to ensure that no lives are lost. All lives are sacred and no human being has the right to die from this disease or indeed any other when there is something, we can do to make the difference.

### **Fellow Kenyans,**

What even breaks our hearts more is when we loose healthcare workers. One life lost is one too many. This is not to suggest that all other lives don't matter. Far from it.

What must be understood is that, healthcare workers in all cadres be they nurses, doctors, clinical officers, laboratory technicians, all those working in the health sector, are our frontline soldiers, who put their own lives at risk in order to save the lives of others.

As I have stated over and over again, and I will not tire in doing so, the government and the Ministry of Health in particular, attaches great importance to the welfare of our healthcare workers in the country, and we are doing what we can within our powers to ensure they are well taken care of. This is because if they are not in the proper frame of mind and body, it will be difficult for them to take care of our people.

### **Fellow Kenyans,**

We have taken note of concerns raised by healthcare workers and we continue to engage them in order to find amicable solutions to all the issues of concern raised. Just last week, you will recall that officials from various unions

held meetings with the Ministry's senior management to address outstanding issues.

They are outstanding because they require further engagement with other stakeholders in Government, and I wish to assure the country that, in the same way we have managed to put all Government employees on the comprehensive cover plan with NHIF, the other issues will also be addressed to their logical conclusion. This requires continued deliberations in an enabling environment in which services continue.

To this end I want to take this opportunity to thank our doctors under the umbrella of Kenya Medical Practitioners Pharmacists and Dentist Union (KMPPDU) for calling off their strike in order to give dialogue a chance. We appeal to all our other healthcare workers, the clinical officers and nurses to equally do the same for the sake of our people.

## **Fellow Kenyans,**

A pandemic such as the one we are in is equal to a war, and our health care workers are our frontline soldiers on the ground. This is not the time to deny our people the much-needed medical attention they so much require, as doing so would be tantamount to leaving them open to attack by the enemy, in this battleground that is the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Ministry of Health will endeavour to ensure those Healthcare Workers employed under the Universal Healthcare and those on short term contracts following the Covid-19 pandemic are paid their dues in good time.

Indeed, I am glad to inform you that, of the 117 doctors hired under this program, only 15 have outstanding dues, with all the others having been paid their November salaries as well as all arrears for the period they have worked since employment. Of the over 9,000 healthcare workers hired under the UHC program, approximately 8,600 have been

paid their dues including all their arrears for the period worked. At the same time, I have asked for a report on the status of all health care workers hired to assist in the fight against Covid-19, and the Ministry shall be sharing this report over the next few days.

On Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), counties have been advised to acquire the commodities at KEMSA at prevailing market rates. In addition to this, the Ministry has distributed to all counties these life-saving items from donations that have been received from friends and well-wishers. Criteria for the distribution of the items has been based on disease burden in each of the counties. And this will continue as when we receive such donations.

### **Fellow Kenyans,**

Turning to our Covid-19 statistics, today, **521** people have tested positive for the virus, from a sample size of **4,721** tested in the last 24 hours, bringing to **89,100** the number of confirmed positive cases in the country. The

cumulative tests are now **938,936**. From the cases **504** are Kenyans while **17** are foreigners. In terms of gender **315** are males and **206** females. The youngest is a **three-year old baby**, while the oldest is **90**.

Distribution of the cases by **Counties** is as follows; Nairobi **191**, Kilifi **93**, Kiambu **32**, Busia **28**, Uasin Gishu **22**, Nakuru **19**, Mombasa **17**, Nyeri **14**, Kajiado **14**, Bungoma **13**, Kirinyaga **11**, Tana River **11**, Kericho **9**, Kisumu **6**, Trans Nzoia **6**, Makueni **5**, Embu **5**, Laikipia **4**, Kitui **4**, Nandi **3**, Siaya **2**, Murang'a **2**, Kakamega **2**, Isiolo **2**, Machakos **1**, Tharaka Nithi **1**, Taita Taveta **1**, Bomet **1**, Nyandarua **1** and Kwale **1**.

In terms of **Sub County** distribution; the **191** cases in **Nairobi**, are from Kibra (25), Lang'ata (24), Kasarani (15), Dagoretti North (13), Makadara, Starehe and Westlands (12) cases each, Embakasi East (11), Ruaraka (10), Dagoretti South and Embakasi West (9) cases each, Embakasi Central and Kamukunji (8) cases each, Mathare

and Roysambu (7) cases each, Embakasi North (6), Embakasi South (3).

In **Kilifi**, the **93** cases are from Kaloleni (42), Kilifi North (32), Malindi (12), Kilifi South (6) and Magarini (1). In **Kiambu**, the **32** cases are from Kiambu Town (18), Ruiru (4), Gatundu South, Juja and Lari (2) cases each, Kabete, Kiambaa, Limuru and Thika (1) case each. In **Busia**, the **28** cases are from Matayos (26) and Teso North (2).

In **Uasin Gishu**, the **22** cases are from Turbo (11), Ainabkoi (9) and Kapseret (2). In **Nakuru** all the **19** cases are from Naivasha. In **Mombasa**, the **17** cases are from Mvita (8), Jomvu (4), Kisauni and Nyali (2) cases each, Likoni (1).

In **Nyeri**, the **14** cases are from Mathira East (12) and Nyeri Central (2). In **Kajiado**, the **14** cases are from Kajiado Central (9), Kajiado East (3) and Kajiado North (2), while all the **13** cases in **Bungoma**, are from Kanduyi.



In **Kirinyaga**, the **11** cases are from Kirinyaga Central (9) and Kirinyaga East (2), while the **11** cases in **Tana River** are all from Garsen. In **Kericho**, all the **9** cases are from Ainamoi. In **Kisumu**, all the **6** cases are from Kisumu Central.

In **Trans Nzoia**, the **6** cases are from Kimilili (5) and Kwanza (1). In **Makueni**, the **5** cases are from Makueni (4) and Kibwezi West (1), while the **5** cases in **Embu**, are all from Manyatta.

In **Laikipia**, the **4** cases are from Laikipia East, while in **Kitui** the **4** cases are from Kitui Central (3) and Mwingi Central (1). In **Nandi**, the **3** cases are from Nandi Hills (2) and Chesumei (1).

The **2** cases in **Siaya**, are from Alego Usonga, the **2** cases in **Murang'a**, are from Gatanga and Kiharu (1) case each, the **2** cases in **Kakamega**, are from Lurambi and Mumias West (1) case each, while the **2** cases in **Isiolo**, are from Isiolo Town.

The **case** in **Machakos**, is from Athi River, the **case** in **Tharaka Nithi**, is from Chuka, the **case** in **Taita Taveta**, is from Mwatate, the **case** in **Bomet**, is from Bomet Central, the **case** in **Nyandarua**, is from Oljoroorok, and the case in **Kwale**, is from Msambweni.

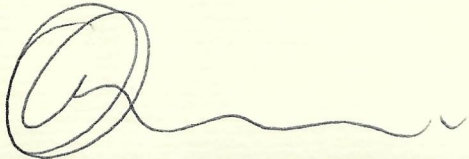
On a positive note, today **425** patients have recovered from the disease, **330** from the Home-Based Care Program, while **95** have been discharged from various hospitals. Total recoveries now stand at **69,839**.

Sadly, we have lost another **14** patients have succumbed to the disease bringing the cumulative fatalities to **1,545**. Our sincere condolences to the families and friends of those who have lost their loved ones.

Currently there are **1,102** patients admitted in various health facilities countrywide with **8,016** on Home Based Isolation and Care. **71** patients are in Intensive Care Unit (ICU), **31** of whom are on ventilatory support, and **39** on supplemental oxygen. **1** is on observation.

Another **66** patients are separately on supplementary oxygen out of whom **58** are in the general wards. **8** are in the High Dependency Unit (HDU).

I thank you.

For: 

**SEN. MUTAHI KAGWE, EGH,**

**CABINET SECRETARY**