

Disrupting the Infection Chain Using a Locally Prepared Sanitizer

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Synopsis:

COVID-19 is threatening public health on a large scale. One of the approaches to curbing the spread of COVID-19 is to disrupt the infection chain. For this purpose, the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology intends to disrupt the chain of infection by targeting the causative agent. We intend to prepare an effective sanitiser that can be used to curb the spread of COVID-19 at University of Zululand.

The stakeholders are:

1. Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology personnel will make the sanitiser in collaboration with some staff members from Chemistry department
2. The department of cleaning services will make use of the sanitiser
3. The Protective Services Department will assist with making use of the sanitiser by people who enter different buildings at University of Zululand and ensure that the sanitiser is not abused
4. Representatives of the different departments will be trained on how to use the sanitiser

Approach:

- a) To make the most economic, efficient and effective sanitizer composed of approximately 70% ethanol or similar safe active ingredient based on World Health Organization best practise
- b) Workshops to train all stakeholders about the sanitiser will be held
- c) Educating departmental representatives about their responsibilities regarding the use of the sanitiser

Operational Procedure:

1. Evacuate and disinfect all venues at University of Zululand (offices, lecture halls, laboratories, residences) using the sanitiser
2. Cleaners need to disinfect all door handles including those of toilets and taps on a daily basis
3. Security must spray the hands of all people at all entrances on campus
4. Direct face-to-face consultation will be minimised, otherwise all students who need to consult must sanitise their hands. Sanitisers must be available in every office.
5. There must be enough ventilation and circulation in all university venues
6. The issue of E-Learning must be prioritised