

## CORONAVIRUS SCREENING AND TESTING

28 May 2020

Dear Member

South Africa is in the second month of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the infection rate showing a steady increase. Although there are still many uncertainties about COVID-19, a lot has been learnt about the disease thus far.

Polmed would like to assure its members that it will support them all the way through this pandemic. We therefore request you to be vigilant and to be on the look-out for any signs and symptoms that may point towards COVID-19 infection so that the necessary measures can be taken immediately. Should you or your dependents present with any of the following signs and symptoms, please consult your healthcare professional for screening and possible testing for COVID-19.

### The signs and symptoms to be on the lookout for are:

- a sudden onset of cough;
- a sore throat;
- shortness of breath; and
- fever.



Your treating healthcare professional will determine whether a PCR test to confirm COVID-19 is required. If it is required a referral note will be issued by the treating doctor to conduct a nasopharyngeal swab at a pathology laboratory for testing. Upon confirmation of the COVID-19 diagnosis, your treating doctor will remain the primary contact person and will manage the treatment of your condition further. Polmed will continue to play a supporting role in ensuring that you recover from the COVID-19 infection as soon as possible. Furthermore, all tests are funded from major risk benefits irrespective of whether the test is positive or negative. Thus, your out-of-hospital benefits will not be impacted when you undergo a PCR test.

### Below is a list of the testing sites managed by Gift of the Givers:

1. Wits University (Johannesburg);
2. Ahmed Al Kadi Hospital (Durban);
3. Midlands Medical Centre (Pietermaritzburg); and
4. Momentum Metropolitan Life (Cape Town).

**Members may call the Gift of the Givers toll free line on 0800786911 for information and appointment when referred by the healthcare practitioner. The results will be available within 48 to 72 hours following the test.**

The SAPS in partnership with Polmed will continue to screen members at hotspots as identified by SAPS through the EHW Head Office.

Polmed encourages you to continue being vigilant at all times and help the nation to contain the spread of the virus as much as possible.

Yours faithfully,



**Ms Neo Khaue**  
**PRINCIPAL OFFICER**