



**RECOMMENDATION: CLINICAL DUTIES OF HEALTH CARE
PROFESSIONALS LIVING WITH DIABETES DURING THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC**

Diabetes mellitus is a high-risk condition associated with multiple co-morbidities. Frontline healthcare professionals (HCPs) are at increased risk for infection with SARS-CoV-2. Given the finite human resources within our health care system, it is imperative that the health and safety of HCPs is prioritised.

Observational data emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic suggests that there is a significant association with poorer outcomes for people living with diabetes that are infected with SARS-CoV-2. In light of this, HCPs with diabetes should be deployed in the environment with the lowest infective risk, preferably away from clinical duties related to the direct care of patients infected with SARS-CoV-2. Where this is not possible we strongly recommend that these HCPs are provided with the optimal level of personal protective equipment to minimise their risk of infection.

SEMDSA Exco

*EXCO: Dr. A. Coetzee (Chairperson), Dr. N.A. Mohamed (Vice Chairperson),
Prof. J.A. Dave, Dr. N. Goolam Mahyoodeen, Dr. K. Naidu, Dr. K.B. Parbhoo,
Dr. A. Pillay, Dr. S. Ruder, Dr. M. van der Vyver*
