



# Kenya Medical Association

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

KMA CENTRE, CHYULU ROAD, P.O. BOX 48502 – 00100 GPO, NAIROBI - KENYA  
Mobile: +254 722 275 695

Email: [nec@kma.co.ke](mailto:nec@kma.co.ke)

Website: [www.kma.co.ke](http://www.kma.co.ke)

20 AUGUST 2021

### MEDIA RELEASE.

### STATEMENT ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PREVAILING COVID 19 PANDEMIC

The Kenya Medical Association is the professional association of registered doctors in Kenya, with the twin mission of championing for the welfare of doctors and advocating for quality health care for all.

KMA through our Covid 19 Response Committee continually offers advice and recommendations on specific areas of concern, based on International Best Practice, National Guidelines and the prevailing circumstances.

The Association has noted with great concern the steady increase of Covid 19 positive cases in pregnant women. “Data has demonstrated that pregnant women are more likely to have severe Covid disease, including the increased risk of ICU admission and death, especially those in the third trimester of pregnancy, and that still birth and preterm birth is more likely (compared to pregnant women without Covid 19.) Pregnant women with underlying medical conditions are at a higher risk of severe illness” (**KOGS 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021**).

KMA reiterates the advisory that pregnant and breastfeeding women should access the Covid 19 Vaccines. The benefits outweigh the minimal risk of adverse maternal or fetal effects from the vaccines.

KMA is also concerned about the increase in reported cases of Covid 19 in our learning institutions. This has led to school closures, absenteeism and a general state of anxiety in the education sector.

KMA urges the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Ministry of Health to strictly enforce the implementation of the protocols for management of Covid 19 in schools.

KMA insists that all schools should have comprehensive, professionally managed healthcare systems in place, with proper referral mechanisms, and proper isolation facilities for suspected and confirmed Covid 19 cases. KMA members are available and willing to guide in this area, so that our schools remain safe places for learning.

The transport sector is a key pillar in our economy. As our passenger services operate at full capacity, we are aware of the potential risk of increased infections, because of reduced social distancing.

KMA urges all passengers to strictly follow all the laid down procedures, with correct masking and use of hand sanitizer as key components. The transport sector managers should ensure the safety of all travelers by enforcing all laid down protocols.

KMA lauds the government efforts to procure vaccines for all citizens. These vaccines should be issued to as many health facilities as possible, public, private and faith based, to ensure increased access by the public. All Kenyans who qualify should present themselves for vaccination when the vaccines are made available.

KMA reiterates that all public gatherings and public rallies should remain suspended until we attain at least 60% vaccination of the population.

Kenya Medical Association is committed to collaborating and supporting all stake holders in the management of this wave, and the pandemic into the future.



**Dr. Were Onyino**  
**President**