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STELLENBOSCH  
UNIVERSITY  
**Approval Letter  
Progress Report**

11/11/2021

**Project ID:** 14994

**Ethics Reference No:** N20/04/008\_COVID-19

**Project Title:** COVID-19: sequencing the virus from South African patients

Dear Dr TG Maponga

We refer to your request for an extension/annual renewal of ethics approval received 14/10/2021.

The Health Research Ethics Committee reviewed the annual progress report through an expedited review process and **was approved with stipulations**.

The approval of this project is extended for a further year.

**Approval date:** 11 November 2021

**Expiry date:** 10 November 2022

**The stipulations of your approval are as follows:**

1. HREC acknowledges the submission of the progress report in respect of project 14994, which had lapsed due to an administrative oversight when the PI (Prof Engelbrecht) retired.
2. HREC notes however, that as this project involves a collaboration with colleagues at UKZN, that some form of ethical oversight has been provided by the UKZN BREC during the lapsed period.

Kindly be reminded to submit progress reports two (2) months before expiry date.

**Where to submit any documentation**

Kindly note that the HREC uses an electronic ethics review management system, *Infonetica*, to manage ethics applications and ethics review process. To submit any documentation to HREC, please click on the following link: <https://applyethics.sun.ac.za>.

Please remember to use your Project Id 14994 and ethics reference number N20/04/008\_COVID-19 on any documents or correspondence with the HREC concerning your research protocol.

Please note that for studies involving the use of questionnaires, the final copy should be uploaded on Infonetica.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs ME Shana  
Coordinator: Health Research Ethics Committee 1

National Health Research Ethics Council (NHREC) Registration Number:  
REC-130408-012 (HREC1)•REC-230208-010 (HREC2)

Federal Wide Assurance Number: 00001372  
Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) Institutional Review Board (IRB) Number:  
IRB0005240 (HREC1)•IRB0005239 (HREC2)

*The Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC) complies with the SA National Health Act No. 61 of 2003 as it pertains to health research. The HREC abides by the ethical norms and principles for research, established by the [World Medical Association \(2013\). Declaration of Helsinki: Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects](#); the South African [Department of Health \(2006\). Guidelines for Good Practice in the Conduct of Clinical Trials with Human Participants in South Africa \(2nd edition\)](#); as well as the Department of Health (2015). *Ethics in Health Research: Principles, Processes and Structures* (2nd edition).*

*The Health Research Ethics Committee reviews research involving human subjects conducted or supported by the Department of Health and Human Services, or other federal departments or agencies that apply the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects to such research (United States Code of Federal Regulations Title 45 Part 46); and/or clinical investigations regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the Department of Health and Human Services.*