

REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
TURKANA COUNTY GOVERNMENT



MINISTRY OF HEALTH SERVICES AND SANITATION

County Health Executive,  
Turkana County,  
P.O Box 11 – 30500, Lodwar

Located at the Ministry of  
Housing Building – Nawoitorong

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25<sup>TH</sup> June 2021

H.E HON. PETER LOTETHIRO EMURIA, DEPUTY GOVERNOR TURKANA COUNTY  
PRESSER ON COVID-19 SITUATION IN THE COUNTY DELIVERED ON 25/06/2020  
AT COUNTY GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS

Distinguished members of the fourth estate,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Turkana County has been at the forefront in managing COVID-19 since the first case was reported in the county on May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020. Robust plans and measures to ameliorate the COVID-19 situation in the county have been put in place by the ministry of health, other relevant county ministries, development partners and other non-state stakeholders who have diligently supported this worthy effort of drastically breaking the chain of infection in the general population. Currently, the positivity rate for the country is at **8.7%** as at 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021. Total confirmed cases as of yesterday stands at **179, 876** and cumulative tests so far conducted are **1, 913, 782**.

In Turkana County, our positivity rate stands at 4.42% way below the national and within WHO recommendations of less than 5%. This is due to the multi sectorial efforts that have been put in place both from the public, partners and the county

government. Our total case load currently stands at **1487** whereas **1438** have so far recovered. Sadly, we have **24** covid-19 related deaths where **18** have occurred at health facilities whilst six have been reported at the community level. Turkana County has so far tested **12,223** people of whom **864** males and **623** females have been confirmed positive.

Cumulatively, case load in terms of sub county distribution, Turkana West **1064**, Turkana Central **380**, Turkana North **23**, Turkana South **18**, Loima **1**, Turkana East **0**, Kibish **0**. Turkana County implemented home based care and institutional isolation as its modus operandi in management of confirmed cases in line with National Government recommendation. I am proud of our front-line soldiers who are our health care workers for successfully managing **1227** cases through home-based care approach and **260** cases at the institutional isolation centres level. As of now, **1220** and **258** have recovered from home-based care institutional isolation centres respectively. As a county, we don't have any patient on oxygen support nor in ICU for now.

#### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In cutting down the referral of samples to Eldoret and other testing sites, the county has invested heavily on the Molecular Laboratory at LCRH and IRC refugee camp to commence testing at the county level. These two laboratories have already been inspected by Kenya Medical Laboratory Technicians and Technologist Board (KMLTTB) and they are currently awaiting approval by the Director General from Ministry of Health-National level to start functioning. I am glad also to report that the County Government of Turkana has procured a COVID 19 PCR machine at a cost of

Kshs. 20M to add to the already existing gene expert machine which was donated by UNHCR. This will go a long way in broadening and diversifying COVID 19 testing in the county. The machines procured by the County government of Turkana and the one donated by UNHCR shall be utilized post-covid to analyze other tests of public health importance. COVID 19 tests can also be accessed at various testing sites across the sub counties by use of COVID rapid antigen tests that give out results within 20mins.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

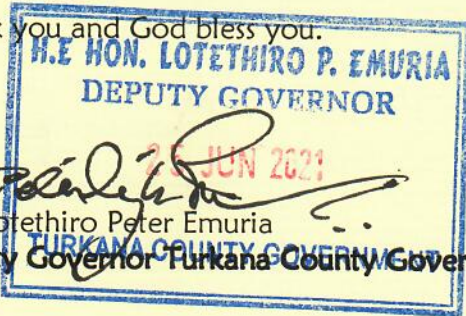
On matters vaccination, as of yesterday, a total of **6089** vaccines have so far been administered across the county. Of these, total first doses are **4616** while second doses are **1473**. The uptake of the second dose among those received their first dose is at **31.9%** with majority being males **78.7%** and females **21.3%**.

The uptake of the second dose by priority groups as follows: Health care workers **444**, Aged 58years and above **103**, Others **473**, Teachers **153**, while security officers **300**.

As you know, Turkana County is bordering Uganda, South Sudan and Ethiopia, these countries have cases of various variants including Indian variant, therefore, members of the public, public and private institutions and offices, business community and penumbra communities are requested to continue adhering the MOH protocols and guidelines to avert this crisis through, avoiding gatherings, reduce festival and cultural activities, frequent hand hygiene, maintain physical distance and appropriately wearing the mask.

It is only by working together that we can successfully stop the spread of corona in the county.

Thank you and God bless you.



H.E. Lotethiro Peter Emuria  
Deputy Governor Turkana County Government