An intervention model for the COVID-19 epidemic in South Africa

Prof Alex van den Heever

20 May 2020

"Model" features and objectives

- Follows the SEIR approaches
- Top-down
- Matches interventions to disease trajectory
- Purpose: examine optimal strategic intervention scenarios and is not used for forecasting – focus is on informing decisions
- Estimates produced till 31 December 2020
- Calibrates "model" using intervention success in other countries and assumes we should get similar results in South Africa (which we haven't)

Generating the model parameters



• • • New infections (est) — New infections (actual) — Reproduction Rate (R)

3



New infections

How do we get to scenarios for 2020?

Individual interventions with associated reductions in R

Response packages involving combinations of interventions with an aggregate R 2020 scenarios involving the application of different packages to specific periods

Interventions	Days	R
Normal behaviour - cold climate	4	2.43
Normal behaviour - hot climate	4	-0.24
Border screening and advice	4	-0.05
Close borders	4	-0.20
Social distancing	4	-0.30
Employer protocols	4	-0.30
Lock-down - targeted	4	-0.20
Lock-down - general	4	-0.55
Targeted testing and contact tracing	4	-0.05
Mass testing and contact tracing	4	-0.50

Interventions and the

Level 4 Intervention	L4: General lock-down	with targeted screening	g - cold weather	Make choices about the
Intervention scenario	Days	R	Intervention	configuration of
Normal behaviour - cold climate	4	2.43		interventions
Normal behaviour - hot climate	4	0.00	No	(nackages)
Border screening and advice	4	-0.05	Yes	(packages)
Close borders	4	-0.20	Yes	
Social distancing	4	-0.30	Yes	
Lock-down - targeted	4	0.00	No	
Lock-down - general	4	-0.55	Yes	
Targeted testing and contact tracing	4	-0.55	Yes	
Mass testing and contact tracing	4		No	
R outcome	4	0.79		
		**********	•	

SCENARIOS TO DECEMBER 2020 – each package has an aggregate R based on the intervention configurations

December

Scenarios are generated by day of the year

Return to ASSUMPTIONS		Lookdown donondont	Dials adjusted	Do nothing
Active scenario =	Risk-adjusted	Lockdown-dependent	Risk-adjusted	Do notning
Day	Quick result on New Infections	Choose your strategy (by day) in this column	Choose your strategy (by day) in this column	Choose your strategy (by day) in this column
		Policy choice	Policy choice	Policy choice
05 March 2020		L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
06 March 2020	0.5	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
07 March 2020	0.8	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
08 March 2020	1.3	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
09 March 2020	2.0	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
10 March 2020	2.6	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
11 March 2020	3.7	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
12 March 2020	5.3	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
13 March 2020	7.5	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
14 March 2020	10.4	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
15 March 2020	14.7	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
16 March 2020	20.8	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
17 March 2020	29.2	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
18 March 2020	41.1	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
19 March 2020	58.0	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
20 March 2020	81.6	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
21 March 2020	115.0	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
22 March 2020	162.0	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather	L0: No intervention - warm weather
23 March 2020	166.0	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather
24 March 2020	209.0	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather
25 March 2020	259.7	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather
26 March 2020	317.4	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather	L1: Limited - warm weather
27 March 2020	130.2	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
28 March 2020	125.3	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
29 March 2020	113.9	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
30 March 2020	93.9	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
31 March 2020	63.4	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
01 April 2020	54.2	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
02 April 2020	44.5	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
03 April 2020	35.0	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather
04 April 2020	27.0	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather

L0: No intervention - warm weather	2.19
L0: No intervention - cold weather	2.43
L1: Limited - warm weather	2.09
L1: Limited - cold weather	1.98
L2: Intermediate - warm weather	1.34
L2: Intermediate - cold weather	1.58
L3: Mass screening with selective lock-downs - warm weather	0.79
L3: Mass screening with selective lock-downs - cold weather	1.03
L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather	0.72
L4: General lock-down with targeted screening - cold weather	0.96

Level 4 Intervention	L4: General lock-downs with targeted screening - warm weather		
Intervention scenario	Days	R	Intervention
Normal behaviour - cold climate	4	2.43	
Normal behaviour - hot climate	4	-0.24	Yes
Border screening and advice	4	-0.05	Yes
Close borders	4	-0.10	Yes
Social distancing	4	-0.65	Yes
Lock-down - targeted	4	0.00	No
Lock-down - general	4	-0.62	Yes
Targeted testing and contact tracing	4	-0.05	Yes
Mass testing and contact tracing	4	0.00	No
R outcome	4	0.72	

Do the parameters predict the South African epidemic – accounting for interventions?





Date



Lockdown-dependent strategy





Risk-adjusted strategy

2.19	Choose intervention scenario
2.43	Risk-adjusted
2.09	
1.98	
1.34	
1.58	These reflect the number of people each
0.37	infected person would infect associated
0.61	with each intervention level. Above you
0.72	can selected the overall scenario to 31
0.96	December 2020
	2.19 2.43 2.09 1.98 1.34 1.58 0.37 0.61 0.72 0.96



New infections — Mortality (est)

