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UCT condemns fake WhatsApp message

The University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital have noted a fake message doing the rounds on WhatsApp attributed to a "Head of Virology" commenting on the coronavirus disease 2019.

UCT reiterates that members of the public should not share unverified messages in this time of anxiety. Circulating fake news is irresponsible, malicious and dangerous, and adds unnecessarily to heightened emotion and tension in this period. The public is urged to take every action possible to verify messages before circulating them.

Spreading misinformation and fake news is among some of the biggest risks for the spread of the virus, and such an act can be criminalised in terms of the regulations.

The UCT [Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) feature page has all the relevant information in relation to the university.

ENDS

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