

COVID-19

Vaccination Programme

Communications priorities

23 – 29 May 2022

This report is for communicators promoting the uptake of the Covid-19 vaccination programme. We hope it will help guide you as you shape communication to best suit your audience.

HEADLINES THIS WEEK

Vaccines save lives, which is why we continue to encourage ALL in South Africa to get vaccinated. Nearly 50% of all adults have already been vaccinated.

- ALL people 12-years and up can get the Covid-19 vaccine for FREE at any vaccination site, including private sites like Dis-Chem and Clicks.
- Even if you have no documentation or have lost your documentation you can get the Covid-19 vaccination for FREE at public sites.

Young people do get long-Covid and the vaccine reduces this risk

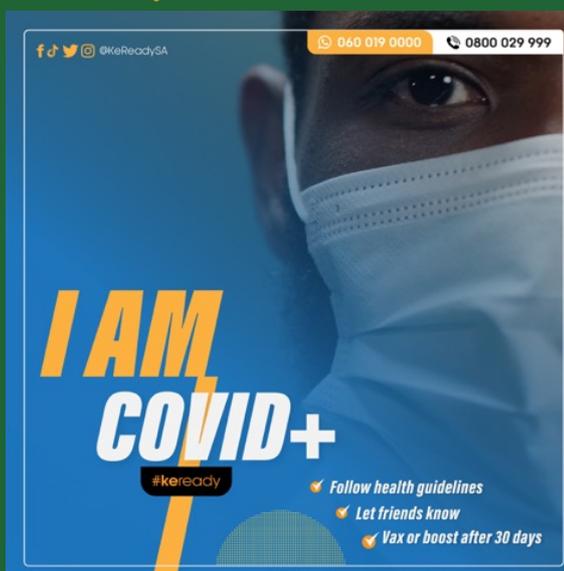
- Long-Covid is no fun, impacting on your social life, and your mental, emotional and physical health for many months.
- The vaccine has been shown to reduce the affect of long-Covid.

Vaccinate and get your vaccination certificate to give you access to sport, travel, study and work opportunities

- You can download your vaccination certificate from the sacoronavirus.co.za website. Use this link: <https://vaccine.certificate.health.gov.za>. If you are battling to download it then ask a friend or family member to help you or call the contact centre to assist – 0800 029 999.

The booster vaccine is important to keep your immunity up, especially if you are over 50-years or have co-morbidities

- The booster gives you extra immunity which will help protect you against severe illness from future variants and the 5th wave.



Need more info on vaccination call 0800 029 999 or visit sacoronavirus.co.za

Reinforce Previous Messages

Covid-19 is very real and the vaccine offers everybody the best protection against severe illness, hospitalisation and death

- The vaccine reduces your chance of experiencing severe Covid symptoms or long-Covid where symptoms going on for many months.

Boosters keep your immunity up and are especially important for people who are over 50 or have co-morbidities

- The booster gives you extra immunity which will help protect you against severe illness from future variants and the 5th wave.
- If you are over 50, or have a co-morbidity such as diabetes or hypertension get your booster now to reduce your risk of hospitalisation.

Covid and Ventilation

- You are less likely to get infected when outside or in areas where there is good fresh air flow.
- When inside keeping windows and doors open to allow air to move freely with fresh air coming in and stale air going out.

Flu and Covid-19 symptoms are similar, which is why if you have flu-like symptoms do not go out socialising but stay home until you are better

- You can help stop the rise in active Covid-19 case numbers by staying home when you are not well, wearing a mask when close to people living in your house, and washing hands and things you touch often throughout the day.

Progress with the Vaccination Rollout



Progress by 19 May 2022

	At least one dose	%	Fully vaccinated	%
% Total pop.	21,591,879	35.8%	18,628,193	30.9%
% Adult pop.	19,829,943	49.8%	18,025,360	45.3%
60+	3,844,405	69.8%	3,538,142	64.3%
50-59 yrs	3,161,255	65.6%	3,006,648	62.4%
35-49 yrs	6,269,710	53.6%	5,858,042	50.1%
18-34 yrs	6,551,528	36.8%	5,621,085	31.6%
12-17 yrs	1,761,936		602,833	
Booster doses	3,049,134			

Daily vaccination statistics

<https://sacoronavirus.co.za/latest-vaccine-statistics/>

Looking for a vaccination site?

0800 029 999 · sacoronavirus.co.za · [Findmyjab.co.za](https://findmyjab.co.za)

Strategies & Interventions

FAQs

Got a question about the vaccine then call the contact centre 0800 029 999 (it's a FREE call), or send a message the KeReady WhatsApp line 060 019 000 to have a health professional answer your question.

The doctors handle all sorts of queries around myths & misconceptions and provide factual information.

I've lost my vaccine code:

Call the contact centre for them send you an SMS with your vaccination code.

Can I get I get a second jab or my booster if I missed my appointment?

Yes you can. Go to your closest vaccination site now.

I've had Covid and I've been vaccinated, why do I need a booster?

Immunity does decline over time and, yes you may have had Covid already but it doesn't offer you lasting protection. The booster vaccine gives you this extra immunity which will help as winter and the 5th wave hit. If you have hypertension or diabetes a vaccine plus a booster is a must for you.

Will the vaccine affect my fertility or my sexual performance?

Getting Covid is more likely to have an impact on your sexual performance so it's best to get vaccinated.



I have Covid, should I have the vaccine?

If you have Covid-19, wait for 30 days after recovering and then take the vaccine. If you have flu then do not vaccinate but wait until you are better to vaccinate for Covid-19.

Can I have a flu jab and the Covid-19 vaccine at the same time?

Yes you can. It is advised that you have them in different arms so the Covid-19 jab in your left arm and the flu-jabs in your right arm.

Vaccination Schedule

These are the current vaccination schedules for people 18-years and above.

Primary Schedule	Booster doses			
One dose	60 day interval	1 st booster	90 day interval	2 nd booster
J&J		J&J OR Pfizer		J&J OR Pfizer

OR

Primary Schedule			Booster dose	
1 st dose	21 day interval	2 nd dose	90 day interval	Pfizer OR J&J
Pfizer		Pfizer		

Note: 12-17 year-olds follow the Pfizer schedule and are able to have 2 doses.

People who are immunocompromised are able to get an additional dose after their primary dose.

COMMUNICATIONS HIERARCHY FOR 23 – 29 May 2022

WHAT	<p>Vaccines save lives, which is why we continue to encourage ALL in South Africa to get vaccinated. Nearly 50% of all adults have already been vaccinated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL people 12-years and up can get the Covid-19 vaccine for FREE at any vaccination site, including private sites like Dis-Chem and Clicks. • Even if you have no documentation or have lost your documentation you can get the Covid-19 vaccination for FREE at public sites. <p>Young people do get long-Covid and the vaccine reduces this risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-Covid is no fun, impacting on your social life, and your mental, emotional and physical health for many months. • The vaccine has been shown to reduce the affect of long-Covid. <p>Vaccinate and get your vaccination certificate to give you access to sport, travel, study and work opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can download your vaccination certificate from the sacoronavirus.co.za website. Use this link: https://vaccine.certificate.health.gov.za. • If you are battling to download it then ask a friend or family member to help you or call the contact centre to assist – 0800 029 999. <p>The booster vaccine is important to keep your immunity up, especially if you are over 50-years or have co-morbidities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The booster gives you extra immunity which will help protect you against severe illness from future variants and the 5th wave. 	
WHY	<p>The vaccine is safe and protects you from getting very sick or dying from Covid-19. If you're over fifty, it's most important that you go now because you have the highest risk. A few people have come for vaccination without realising they already have Covid-19, and have died soon afterwards – but they died from Covid-19 infection and not from the vaccination. The vaccine does not cause sexual problems or infertility. But if you catch Covid-19, you could experience these problems until you recover fully. It's another good reason to be vaccinated right away!</p>	
WHO	<p>Any person in South Africa aged 12 and above should go get vaccinated right away.</p> <p>It is also safe for pregnant women to get vaccinated at any stage of pregnancy.</p> <p>It's your choice. Government is not forcing anybody to get vaccinated, but would like everyone to understand its benefits to them, their families and communities.</p>	<p>It's for men and women, SA citizens and people living in SA from other countries.</p> <p>Individuals who don't have documents, for whatever reason, are also able to be vaccinated at public sites.</p>
WHERE	<p>You can visit any vaccination site at a government health facility or a private pharmacy or health facility. Even if you don't have medical aid, you can go to a private facility and you won't have to pay.</p>	<p>Not all health facilities or pharmacies are vaccination sites. You can find out where your closest site is by visiting https://sacoronavirus.co.za/active-vaccination-sites/ or calling the National Covid-19 hotline on 0800 029 999 – it's a free call. You can also look on the app: findmyjab.co.za</p>
HOW	<p>YOU CAN JUST ARRIVE AT A VACCINATION SITE BUT IT WILL SAVE YOU TIME IF YOU REGISTER FIRST</p> <p>It will save you time if you register as that way your details are already in the system.</p> <p>Phone 0800 029 999 tollfree OR USSD: Dial *134*832*IDnumber# No ID no? Just dial *134*832# WhatsApp: Send "Register" to 0600 123 456 Online: https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/</p> <p>But you can still just walk in. You may just have to wait a bit longer. If you have access to the Internet, you can choose when and where to get vaccinated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once you are registered, you can choose when and where to get vaccinated or change your vaccination appointment. • Go to https://vaccine.booking.health.gov.za <p>Once you are fully vaccinated, you can download your Vaccination Certificate from https://vaccine.certificate.health.gov.za/</p>	<p>If you register, you will get an SMS telling you where and when to go to get vaccinated.</p> <p>But you don't have to wait for the SMS. Just go to your nearest vaccination site.</p> <p>Getting vaccinated is easy. When you get to the vaccination site, a nurse will take your temperature to check that you don't have Covid-19. If you do, you'll be asked to come back in a month when it's safer for you and for all the other people in the queue.</p> <p>If your temperature is normal, you'll be invited to join the queue to be vaccinated. When you do, you'll feel a small prick in your arm.</p> <p>Afterwards you'll be asked to stay for 15 minutes just to make sure you have no side effects.</p>
WHAT IF	<p>It is normal to have some side effects. A few hours after the vaccine you might feel like you've got a bad 'flu, with fevers and headaches and chills. But it goes away after day or so.</p>	<p>If you're worried or feel short of breath or your heart is racing, feel free to call the Covid-19 hotline 0800 029 999 for advice.</p>
<p>If you have any questions, call the COVID-19 hotline on 0800 029 999. Contact: Nombulelo Leburu, Director: External Communication Nombulelo.leburu@health.gov.za</p>		