

COVID-19

Vaccination Programme

Communications priorities

13 – 19 June 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

More than 8,5 million young South Africans have had their Covid-19 vaccine

If you haven't already vaccinated come NOW then you too can be ready to grab ALL the opportunities that may come your way.

Make sure your decisions are based on fact and not misinformation

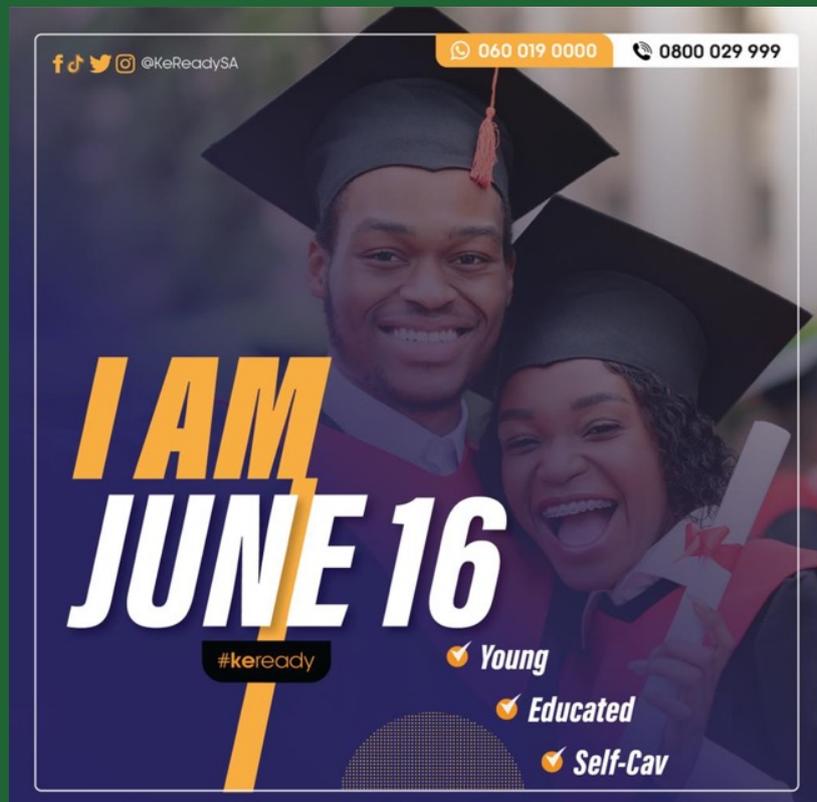
There is a lot of misinformation and fake news spread on social media and people who are uninformed. Make sure you know what is correct before sharing or giving out false information. Visit the CDC, WHO or NICD websites for facts on vaccines for Covid, monkeypox and measles.

Vaccines save lives and help to keep you out of hospital

Most people in hospital with Covid-19 have not been vaccinated.

Being fully vaccinated and boosted offers you the best protection

To keep your immunity up make sure you have your second jab and that you also have your booster as the immunity from both Covid and the vaccine declines over time and you want to stay fully protected for each new wave or variant that emerges.



Call 0800 029 999 - Visit sacoronavirus.co.za - findmyjob.co.za

Reinforce Previous Messages

65% of people over 50 years are vaccinated & are encouraged to get an extra booster

- Two Pfizer booster doses are now available for people over 50. Boosters help to keep your immunity up reduce your chance of being hospitalised or getting very ill from Covid.
- If you are over 50 and have a co-morbidity the booster is a must to keep your immunity up and your body healthy.



50% of adults are vaccinated with at least one dose

- Thank you to ALL who have worked tirelessly alongside our health care workers to make this possible.

	One dose J&J	Interval	Booster 1	Interval	Booster 2	Interval	Booster 3
Start with one dose J & J	1 dose J&J	60 days	1st booster J&J or Pfizer	90 days	2nd booster J&J or Pfizer	120 days	3rd booster Pfizer
	1st dose	Interval	2nd dose	Interval	Booster 1	Interval	Booster 2
Start with two doses Pfizer	1st dose Pfizer	21 days	2nd dose Pfizer	90 days	1st booster J&J or Pfizer	120 days	2nd booster Pfizer

Most young people in hospital with Covid are not vaccinated

- The facts are clear - the vaccine helps to keep you out of hospital. Currently nine out of ten teens in hospital with severe Covid have not vaccinated.

Getting the vaccine improves your mood

- Studies (AJPM, 2022:62:5,P679-687) show that people's mental health improves after vaccinating as there is a reduction in anticipated fear about Covid and its possible impact on their lives which improves their overall mental health.

Progress with the Vaccination Rollout



Progress by 9 June 2022

	At least one dose	%	Fully vaccinated	%
% Total pop.	21,874,855	36.3%	18,896,621	31.3%
% Adult pop.	20,005,499	50.3%	18,213,091	45.8%
60+	3,868,682	70.3%	3,566,679	64.8%
50-59 yrs	3,178,550	66.0%	3,031,396	62.9%
35-49 yrs	6,317,331	54.1%	5,916,296	50.6%
18-34 yrs	6,637,952	37.3%	5,697,326	32.0%
12-17 yrs	1,869,356	29.9%	683,530	10.9%
Booster doses	3,305,117			

Daily vaccination statistics

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

Looking for a vaccination site?

0800 029 999 · sacoronavirus.co.za · findmyjab.co.za

Interventions & Updates

Covid-19 Update

If you have Covid-19 and symptoms

The isolation period for Covid-19 is 7 days for those who have symptoms. Stay home and avoid contact with others.

Where people have moderate to severe Covid-19 symptoms and have been hospitalised 7 days of home isolation is required following their discharge.

If I have Covid-19 and no symptoms

If you test positive for Covid but have no symptoms you no longer need to isolate but be extra cautious when with others for 5-7 days.

Testing

There is no need to test contacts who don't have symptoms which is why testing isn't routine anymore.

If you are a known contact take extra precautions for 5-7 days especially when with people, but there is no need to test or to isolate unless symptoms develop.

Contact tracing

This has been stopped by health workers and community health workers. However, where there are cluster outbreaks in places such as work and congregate setting an alert via phone should be given to people who are contacts or could be affected so that they can self-observe for 5-7 days.

You can get your Covid-19 vaccine

30-35 days after recovering

Wait at least 30 days before getting your Covid-19 vaccination.

If you've been exposed to Covid-19 but had no symptoms wait 10 days before getting vaccinated.

Vaccine Certificate

Get your vaccination certificate using the following web link:

<https://vaccine.certificate.health.gov.za>

Confused?

Fact versus Fiction and the vaccine

When it comes to news about Covid-19 there is a lot of confusing and false information out there, especially on social media. As a result young people who have been exposed to this the most don't know who or what to believe with many not knowing the facts about the vaccine, or they've switched off totally to any Covid related information. It is our job to change this by engaging with young people in honest conversations and providing them with sound medically and scientifically based facts and delivered via people who they trust.

The KeReady young doctor and health professional network is doing just this and is also providing information about the type of things that people should look out for in the media or exposed to people with differing agendas. **#Kereadysa**

Knowing the terms

Misinformation: Incorrect information that is shared unknowingly.

Mal-information: based on fact but misinterpreted with the intent to harm

Fake news: false and intends to mislead

Disinformation: false information that is presented as fact in order to deceive.

What to look for

It is important to read the text, and not just the headline. Also to look at the link and where it comes from. Ask yourself questions like: Who wrote or said this? Is this a source I know and respect? Does the photo look real? Does this look like it actually happened and when? Does it sound like news or is it sensationalism? Is it playing on my fears? Remember to question and to check facts with a quick google search.

Report and fact-check information

Media Monitoring Africa: www.real411.org or WhatsApp 067 966 4015.

Africa Check: africacheck.org

COMMUNICATIONS HIERARCHY FOR 13 – 19 June 2022

WHAT	<p>More than 8,5 million young South Africans have had their Covid-19 vaccine If you haven't already vaccinated come NOW then you too can be ready to grab ALL the opportunities that may come your way.</p> <p>Make sure your decisions are based on fact and not misinformation There is a lot of misinformation and fake news spread on social media and people who are uninformed. Make sure you know what is correct before sharing or giving out false information. Visit the CDC, WHO or NICD websites for facts on vaccines for Covid, monkeypox and measles.</p> <p>Vaccines save lives and help to keep you out of hospital Most people in hospital with Covid-19 have not been vaccinated.</p> <p>Being fully vaccinated and boosted offers you the best protection To keep your immunity up make sure you have your second jab and that you also have your booster as the immunity from both Covid and the vaccine declines over time and you want to stay fully protected for each new wave or variant that emerges.</p>	
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. It is also safe for pregnant women to get vaccinated at any stage of pregnancy. 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. Individuals who don't have documents, for whatever reason, are also able to be vaccinated for FREE 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 It will save you time if you register as that way your details are already in the system. 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/ 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. 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. 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. 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>		