

#### B4SA: Weekly Update 14 May 2021

You will undoubtedly have followed developments over the past few days related to the South African COVID-19 vaccine acquisition and rollout programme. Colleagues will be aware that we established the B4SA vaccine platform to provide up-to-date information on bilateral and multilateral engagements with government, hopefully enabling businesses to respond to the latest news.

Dear B4SA and healthcare colleagues,

We are at a crucial juncture in our effort to halt the spread of coronavirus infections: a recent swell in numbers—a possible prelude to a third wave—coincides with Phase 2 of the vaccination rollout that will begin on Monday 17 May. Phase 2 targets those over 60 who have registered on the government's EVDS platform. If you have not registered, please do so immediately—here is the link.

We all need to acknowledge the enormity of the task. The number of vaccines that need to be administered daily to achieve herd immunity is daunting. B4SA continues to work with the government and related stakeholders to ensure our energies are focused on getting Phase 2 successfully out of the starting blocks.

The drive to get over 60s to register must continue. The number of registrations is still too low. We know from a recent NICD report that it is only a small percentage of people who are reluctant to receive the vaccine. So we need to keep pushing the message: please register and help others to do so as well.

The overwhelming majority of the nation is willing to be vaccinated, and we must continue to make sure that this rollout gets underway. There will be hiccups. There will be frustrations. But this is an enormous challenge that we must tackle collectively and directly.

Stay safe—register if you are over 60, and tell and help others to do the same .

Martin Kingston, Chairman, B4SA Steering Committee

## **Government Communication**





#### Dear Private Healthcare Provider

The National Department of Health has procured COVID-19 vaccines from two suppliers, Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson. A total of 51 million doses have been secured from both manufacturers for the South African vaccine rollout programme. These vaccines are being stored and delivered to health facilities by two distributors Biovac and DSV. Private health establishments with vaccine sites must establish an account with distributors for the procurement of the vaccines. The National Department of Health is not a VAT vendor; hence no VAT will be levied on the vaccines.

The price of the Pfizer vaccine from the distributor will be R308,48 per dose. There are 6 doses of the vaccine in a vial; hence the cost per vial is R1850,88. The Pfizer vaccine is a two-dose vaccine to be administered 21 days apart and can be stored at between -80°C and -60°C for the entire expiry date or at -15°C to -25°C for 14 days or 2°C to 8°C for 5 days

The price of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine from the distributor will be R286,96 per dose. There are 5 doses of the vaccine in a vial; hence the cost per vial is R1434,80. The J&J vaccine is a single dose vaccine and can be stored at -15°C to -20°C for the entire expiry date or 2°C to 8°C for 3 months.

Private sector institutions wishing to procure the vaccine, will be required to open new accounts with the distributors and agree to the trading terms and conditions and credit mandate of the National Department of Health. Distributors will act on the Credit Mandate of the NDoH

The vaccine orders will have to be placed with the National Department of Health where quantities of doses will be approved based on the number of vaccines allocated to a site by the EVDS. Once the order is approved the vaccines will be delivered to the health establishment. The health establishment has 90 days to settle the account. The extended period of terms is intended to assist the facility to manage cash flow.

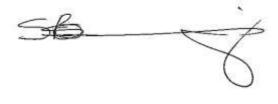
The EVDS will schedule medical scheme members and where required also schedule uninsured vaccinees. The health establishment has the responsibility to capture the relevant medical scheme information and bill the medical scheme using their billing system as EVDS does not have a billing functionality. The facility will bill the medical scheme R308,48 per dose for the Pfizer vaccine plus VAT, a total of R354.75 per dose. In the case of Johnson &

Johnson, the medical scheme will be billed R286.96 plus VAT, a total of R330.00 per dose.

The cost of administering the vaccine for a health facility registered to vaccinate shall be R70 per vaccination and cover for vaccine waste, including the confirmation of details on the EVDS, preparation of the vaccine, vaccination, counselling, and 15 minutes waiting period in the facility following vaccination. There shall be no additional fee levied for the vaccination. For insured vaccinees, the cost of administration will be paid in full by medical schemes since this is a prescribed minimum benefit.



In the case of uninsured vaccinees referred to a private health establishment via the EVDS, the billing will be to the National Department of Health. The billing in the case of the National Department will relate to the cost of the vaccine dose and the cost of vaccine administration. The National Department of Health will (after verification on EVDS) issue a credit authorisation with the distributor for the cost of the vaccine dose and the cost of the vaccine administration.



DR SSS BUTHELEZI

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL: HEALTH** 

DATE: 14/05/2021

# Monday 17 May Phase 2 details

Monday 17 May will mark a turning point in our 14-month fight against COVID-19. While the vaccination of healthcare workers will continue, we will now, for the first time, commence the vaccination of ordinary South Africans. We will start with our most vulnerable people, the 5.4 million over 60s. The coming weeks we will see a phased ramp up of our national capacity as both public and private vaccination capacity increases and the department takes mobile vaccination to congregate settings, like old age homes.

Over the weekend, the Department will communicate the details of the rollout and how it might effect business and citizens alike. We will distribute this to the business community as soon as it is available.

# REGISTER FOR YOUR VACCINATION

https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za



# Your Guide to the Electronic Vaccination Data System (EVDS)

citizens aged 60 years and above need to register for their COVID-19 vaccination through the EVDS self enrolment platform

6 steps to register for vaccination if you are 60 years or older:

STEP 2





a tablet or a computer









When it is your turn to be vaccinated, the system will send you another SMS with a date and the venue for your vaccination.

If you put in the correct address, you will be sent to the vaccination centre that is closest to your home

#IChooseVacciNation

Should you encounter problems during the registration process contact the COVID-19 hotline 0800 029 99









#### Vaccination Toolkit

The government has released a free Vaccination Communications Toolkit for use by all interested parties wanting to contribute to the communications efforts against COVID-19 and in support of vaccination and registration.

Access it here.



# QR Code link to EVDS registration site

The QR code below links directly to the EVDS registration site. Please use it in any print or applicable marketing material to help spread the message.

Users simply need to open the camera app on their mobile phone and point it at the code. A notification will open on the phone taking them directly to the site to register.



# Synthesis Report: NIDS-CRAM Wave 4

Some interesting findings from the National Income Dynamics Study (NIDS) – Coronavirus Rapid Mobile Survey (CRAM). Follow the link below for the summary.

71% of South African adults say they would get vaccinated if a COVID-19 vaccine was available.

If you wish to download the full papers on which the Synthesis Report is based, go to the NIDS-CRAM Website

Read the Daily Maverick report on this here.



# **NEWS REPORTS OF INTEREST**

The weeks news, government announcements and interesting reading:

NIDS Study: 71% of South Africans say they will take the vaccine (Afrikaans people most hesitant):

The MAC weighs in on W3 debate:

https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/mkhizes-3rd-wave-warning-heknows-we-will-end-up-with-trauma-and-suffering-again-20210513

2 Gauteng schools closed due to 17 cases (St Johns and Krugersdorp High School)

WC sees increase in cases (12% increase in positivity rate in the last week):

Dep Min Phaahla says vaccination of HCW will be completed in next 2 weeks

Report: WHO says Covid-19 could have been avoided. Report provides recommendations to avert future pandemics

UK: Indian variant is spreading faster than Kent variant

Incentive: Ohio installs a vaccine lottery (\$1m per week for 5 weeks, open to vaccinees):

mRNA vaccines (Pfizer) effective against B.1.617 variant:

J&J clotting condition: people are 40 times more likely to die from Covid (current cases: 28 cases in 8.7m vaccines given, 3 mortalities):

Mkhize says that HCW will be jabbed alongside >60's

Mkhize says NDoH will be making special arrangements for elderly that are not mobile



Slim Karim says we shouldn't become complacent

<u>Gov't says further restrictions are not currently planned</u>	:
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NDOH says scheduling will be	egin shortly,	and people	will be giver	notice for	their
appointments					

Questions on post-vaccination protocols and incentives

<u>Seychelles—a third of those testing positive had been vaccinated. Vaccines used: AZ and Sinopharm</u>

China and Russia in a race to vaccinate developing world:

Study—Covid and link to neurological complications:

<u>Study—ISS National Health Institute says antibodies remain for eight months after Covid infection</u>

Study—Link between higher BMI and testing positive for Covid

Gov't launches WhatsApp registration (USSD)

Experts calling for stricter lockdown measures ahead of W3

Gauteng's numbers growing, concerning NICD

Tshwane alert over W3

Bhekisisa guide to side-effects

US authorises vaccines for children 12 to 15



## New York subway stations to offer vaccinations

WHO slams countries donating vaccines in return for geopolitical influence

Study results: vaccinations reduce transmissions (various studies, different countries)

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# OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES ON COVID-19

All official government regulations and guidelines are available at <a href="https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines">https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines</a>

# **OFFICIAL RESOURCES:**

NICD website: <a href="http://www.nicd.ac.za">http://www.nicd.ac.za</a>
COVID-19 information website: <a href="https://sacoronavirus.co.za">https://sacoronavirus.co.za</a>

Coronavirus 24-hour Hotline: 0800 029 999 Coronavirus WhatsApp: 060 012 3456

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

www.gov.za www.facebook.com/GovernmentZA twitter.com/GovernmentZA www.youtube.com/user/GovernmentZA sacoronavirus.co.za sacoronavirus.co.za/tag/vaccine-toolkits/ twitter.com/COVID\_19\_ZA twitter.com/DrZweliMkhize







