

#### B4SA: Weekly Update 25 June 2021

Dear B4SA and business colleagues,

We are pleased that the Department of Health (DOH) is now directing and permitting more uninsured people to be vaccinated at the growing number of private sector sites. The result is that we will use the increased supply of vaccines more effectively and rapidly increase the number of people protected. The vaccination programme is now also gathering steam, with up to 100,000 people a day being vaccinated this week.

The opening of registrations for people 50 and above from 1 July and their vaccinations commencing from 15 July is also welcome news.

B4SA asks all over 50s to register as soon as they are able, and for everyone to help the over 50s they know to register.

Registration is necessary for people to be vaccinated as it helps the DOH allocate resources, manage the stock of vaccines and remind people of their second jab.

We continue to ask for your support and co-operation. Here is the link to register.

With the third wave upon us, and hospitals nearing capacity, we also need every person to continue to wear masks, sanitise, and maintain social distancing.

Stay safe—register and help others do the same.

Martin Kingston, Chairman, B4SA Steering Committee

# Breaking News: Vaccines for people over 50 years and above

B4SA welcomes the utilisation of private capacity to vaccinate uninsured people, the recent rapid increase in vaccinations, and the opening of EVDS registrations to over 50s.

- B4SA will continue to support the government to expand approved vaccination sites for the public and workers.
- B4SA is pleased more uninsured people will be vaccinated, using increasing private capacity.
- B4SA notes that the ramp-up of capacity is dependent on delivery from vaccine manufacturers.
- We appeal to the public to maintain masking, social distancing and sanitising.



Business for South Africa (B4SA) welcomes the Electronic Vaccination Data Systems (EVDS) opening for people over 50 to register from 1 July and be vaccinated from 15 July.

Martin Kingston, chairman of the B4SA steering committee, says, "We are also very pleased the Department of Health has agreed that the country will increasingly take advantage of the growing number of private-sector sites by directing and permitting uninsured people to be vaccinated there. This means that as a country, we will use the increased supply of vaccines more effectively and rapidly increase the number of people protected."

However, South Africa remains in a periodically vaccine-constrained environment and is dependent on delivery by the manufacturers. "We welcome the arrival of short-dated J&J stock now used for educators and other workers," says Kingston, "but caution that vaccine supply remains unpredictable and periodically constrained. We will soon start to use Pfizer stock for people's second doses, which will increase demand on our stocks."

Read the full statement on the **B4SA** website.

#### Interval between SARS-COV-2 infection and COVID-19 vaccination

The circular below outlines what people who are eligible for vaccination should do if they have been infected with COVID-19, and how long after infection they should wait to be vaccinated.



Private Bag X828, PRETORIA, 0001, Civitas Building, 242 Struben Street, Pretoria

#### TO:

HEADS OF PROVINCIAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES
DISTRICT AND PHC MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINE PROGRAMME MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINATION SITE MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINATORS



#### INTERVAL BETWEEN SARS-COV-2 INFECTION AND COVID-19 VACCINATION

COVID-19 vaccines are effective, and provide protection against COVID-19 infection. Individuals with prior SARS-CoV-2 infection should still be vaccinated if they are in the eligible population. These individuals should be vaccinated regardless if their SARS-CoV-2 infection was symptomatic, asymptomatic or resulted in prologned post COVID-19 symptoms.

Testing for SARS-CoV-2 infection before COVID-19 vaccination is not recommened. Studies conducted on the COVID-19 vaccines indicate these vaccines can safely be given to individuals with a history of previous SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, if an individual is known to have had SARSCoV-2 infection, the recommended minimum interval between the SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID19 vaccination is 30 days.

The minimum interval between SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 vaccination applies to individuals who experience SARS-CoV-2 infection before the first dose of COVID-19 vaccination, or after the first dose and before the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

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**DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: NATIONAL HEALTH** 

**INSURANCE DATE: 24 June 2021** 

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# Acting MOH Media Briefing 25 June 2021 – COVID-19 and Vaccine Rollout

Please find **attached** the comments made by Acting MoH at the media briefing this morning. Here is the link to the recording:

https://gcis.zoom.us/rec/share/kAdzV4LnAGiWOu2 N5uzLFqjhrCLwyRS3Iznec5ZUM0FxWtcgdhrmxg2-0jaXkCh.qRQwlAqj3qcMroOQ

Access Passcode: TRmDB5t%

# NDOH New Vaccine Dashboard

The NDOH has launched its new vaccine dashboard which can be found

here: <a href="https://sacoronavirus.co.za/latest-vaccine-statistics/">https://sacoronavirus.co.za/latest-vaccine-statistics/</a>



The statistics reflect the position at 17:00 the previous day, and will be uploaded at 18:30 each evening.

# **B4SA Information Sharing Sessions**

In an effort to share international best practice and insights to help inform South Africa's response to the pandemic and our vaccine rollout programme, B4SA has been hosting ongoing information sharing sessions with international experts.

In this week's session, we hosted Dr Kate Molesworth, Health and Social Development Advisor at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, who advises UN agencies and individual governments. She shared insights into her advisory and evaluation work on the pandemic.

- 1. WHO's COVID-19 strategic preparedness and response plan how every country should be planning and implementing their approach.
- 2. Key considerations for responding in low- and middle-income countries.
- 3. Lessons learned that inform the vaccination rollout.

Please find below links to a recording of the webinar. https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/597eda12-ef5f-4937-8c0d-7918ffe6f5e0

### The Impact:

As of 24 June 2021, the cumulative number of COVID-19 infections (cases) identified in South Africa is 1,877,143

The total number of deaths stands at 65,534

COVID-19 Statistics for 24 June 2021



# **COVID - 19 STATISTICS IN SOUTH AFRICA**

#### 24 June 2021

#	Province	Cases last 14 days	Cases		Deaths		Vaccines(Pfizer + J&J)		Current Hospital Numbers		
			Total	New	Total	New	Total	New	Admitted	ICU	Ventilated
1	Gauteng	98 298	588 009	+9 521	16 185	+162	607 230	+20 117	5 991(+149)	1 177(+19)	579(+12)
2	W. Cape	14 817	313 560	+1912	12 180	+32	381 132	+10.737	1 470(-9)	232(+5)	95(-3)
3	North West	9 411	89 980	+1 147	2 446	+25	126 863	+7 314	806(+28)	85(-1)	43(-2)
4	KZN	7 010	349 301	+697	11 191	+10	576 205	+28 705	675(+22)	108(-1)	44(+1)
5	Free State	6 021	111 953	+552	4 755	+43	136 975	+6 071	568(+9)	80(+2)	70(+8)
6	Mpumalanga	5 898	90 716	+622	2 757	+9	119 602	+9 159	296(-3)	80(-3)	41
7	Limpopo	4 859	71 691	+870	2 881	+13	288 061	+11 975	254(+16)	22(-5)	26(+2)
8	E. Cape	4 775	204 175	+466	11 795	0	281 523	+18 683	349(+24)	45(-11)	37(-3)
9	N. Cape	3 968	57 758	+291	1 344	+11	32 657	+2 255	327(+3)	37(-5)	54(-4)
TOTAL		155 057	1 877 143	16 078	65 534	305	2 550 248	115 016	10736(+239)	1 866(0)	989(+11)
=	Many tanta	Tests and positivity for the province 7 days								Bassussias	

New tests	Tests and positivity for the previous 7 days										
65 631	W:70 186	Tu:46 893	M:36 858	Su:55 593	<b>Sa</b> :58 635	F:51 301	Th:52 118				
24.5%	24.9%	23.7%	24.9%	23.7%	23.2%	20.5%	22.6%				

| Recoveries | | Total | New | | 1 675 827 | +4 436 |

Source: NICD and Department of Health





# Revised Covid-19 OHS direction for workplaces

The Minister of Employment and Labour has published, in the Government Gazette, a new consolidated COVID-19 Direction on Occupational Health and Safety in the Workplace (**Revised OHS Direction**). The Revised OHS Direction replaces the Direction that was published on 1 October 2020. <u>Click here</u> to access a copy of the Revised OHS Direction which came into force on, Friday 11 June 2021.

# Guidance to all private sector vaccination sites

# **B4SA THANKS BUSINESS FOR REGISTERING AS PRIMARY WORKPLACE VACCINATION SITES**

B4SA thanks and applauds all businesses registered as a primary workplace vaccination site through the Master Facility List (MFL) process set up by the NDOH. It will certainly assist not only their employees, but all others able to be accommodated by those sites. This will also help the national effort by relieving pressure on the other public and private sector vaccination sites.



#### **B4SA DOH vaccination card**

This is what your vaccination card will look like:

**DOH Vaccination Card** 

# NDOH vaccine price circular

Click here for information regarding the Department of Health vaccine price circular

#### VACCINE APPOINTMENT SCHEDULING NOTICE

We have noted that some sites are scheduling their appointments in a way that does not provide vaccinees with enough lead time notice.

Official NDOH guidance requires sites to provide vaccinees with at least 72 hours' notice between receiving an SMS and presenting themselves to a vaccination site.

We recommend that all sites **revise their schedules to seven days** forward to allow vaccinees sufficient time to plan for their appointments and assist in the advance allocation of stock.

#### **ACTIVE VACCINATION SITES**

The Government's SA coronavirus website has the latest vaccination rollout sites across SA: there are 576 as of 11 June.

To access the list, click on the link below

https://sacoronavirus.co.za/active-vaccination-sites/

# 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:



Make sure you have internet access STEP 2



You will need a smartphone, a tablet or a computer STEP 3



Connect to the internet and go to

https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.zal#



The welcome screen will tell you what to do next.

STEP 5



Follow the instructions Put in all the details the system asks for STEP 6



When you are done the system will send an SMS to the phone number you provided. This SMS will tell you that you are registered. This means that the system now has you in the queue.

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 029 999









# Vaccines for Health Care Workers (V4HCW)

#### Important changes to booking process since Sisonke

There are no separate websites to register—it is all on one site:

https://bookings.v4hcw.co.za/vax/



### Vaccination Communications 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.

# News reports of interest

The week's news, government announcements and interesting reading:

#### **Top Stories**

#### Interest reading:

WC battling to control infection spike

https://www.iol.co.za/capetimes/news/western-cape-battling-to-control-spike-in-covid-19-infections-5a4e56d1-77e3-49d0-b273-a7c01eff7097

Weekend meeting to decide new restrictions

https://businesstech.co.za/news/government/501141/weekend-meeting-to-decide-new-lockdown-restrictions-for-south-africa/

Are Chinese vaccines underperforming?

https://healthpolicy-watch.news/are-chinese-vaccines-underperforming-a-dearth-of-real-life-studies-on-covid-vaccine-performance-leaves-question-unanswered/

SAHPRA says it will only be swayed by science

https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/eff-march-for-vaccines-sahpra-says-it-will-only-be-swayed-by-science-20210625

EFF wants us to use Russian and Chinese vaccines – there are unanswered questions about them

https://www.groundup.org.za/article/eff-wants-us-use-russian-and-chinese-vaccines-there-are-unanswered-questions-about-them/

SAHPRA monitoring breakthrough infections



https://ewn.co.za/2021/06/24/sahpra-monitoring-covid-19-breakthrough-infections

Limpopo could be first province to reach herd immunity

https://www.businessinsider.co.za/trending/limpopo-province-the-first-to-reach-herd-immunity-in-south-africa-2021-6

SARS makes changes to individual tax filing as third wave hits SA

https://businesstech.co.za/news/finance/501133/sars-makes-changes-for-individual-tax-filing-season-as-third-covid-19-wave-hits-south-africa/

How do I check how many people have COVID in my area?

https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2021-06-25-how-do-i-check-how-many-people-have-covid-19-in-my-area/

Sewage tracking COVID rates in Gauteng

https://www.groundup.org.za/article/covid-19-poo-surveillance-covid-19-third-wave-ingauteng/

Gauteng to hire more health workers

https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/covid-19-gauteng-to-hire-more-health-workers-amid-criticism-of-provinces-third-wave-response-20210625

We are seeing younger people dying

https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/this-is-a-tsunami-gauteng-hospitals-buckling-under-pressure-of-covid-19-third-wave-20210624

#### International

Africa battles new COVID-19 wave hitting faster and harder

The Delta variant is fuelling school outbreaks in Israel, leading the country's cases to tick up

EU countries look to toughen restrictions on travel from UK

Japan to give 1m vaccine doses each to Taiwan and Vietnam

UK test and trace system 'still missing targets'

Hawaii to drop virus test, quarantine for vaccinated domestic travellers

Portuguese PM hints at tougher Covid rules for tourists from UK

All UK arrivals in EU should be quarantined, says Merkel

Africans 'dangerously exposed' by lack of Covid jabs, says WHO

Almost 600m NHS home Covid tests unaccounted for, auditors reveal

Is Japan's remarkable vaccine drive in time for Olympics?

Parts of Sydney going into lockdown as virus outbreak grows

Portugal's Lisbon rolls out new COVID curbs as cases surge

<u>Brazil leads the world in the daily average number of new deaths reported, accounting for one in every 4 deaths reported worldwide each day</u>



The average number of new infections reported in Algeria has been increasing for 7 days straight Mongolia crosses 100,000 reported COVID-19 infections

Watch: Child labour in Uganda: The hidden costs of Covid

Covid: Green list expansion not enough, say travel bosses

#### **Interesting sites**

Covid Comms is producing infographics, which are available for free download

**Center for Disease Control, USA** 

INFOGRAPHIC: Coronavirus: the new disease Covid-19 explained

Coronavirus in context: a guide to help you understand the pandemic

**European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control** 

Lockdowns compared: tracking governments' coronavirus responses

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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



