# COVID-19

# **Vaccination Programme**

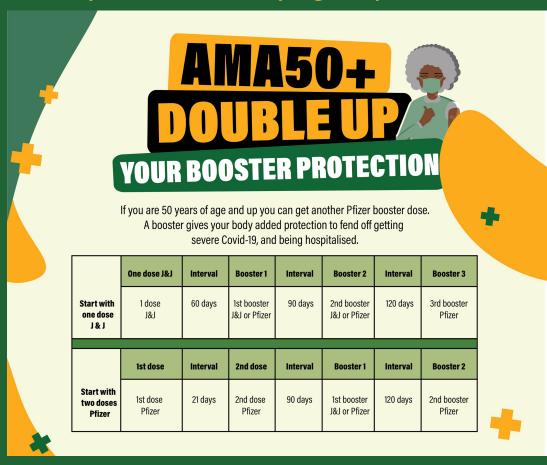
**Communications priorities** 

12 - 18 September 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 give us the best protection while Covid is still around whatever our age.
- If you are over 50 and have vaccinated come for your second booster as you are still more likely to get very sick from Covid.



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





### **Reinforce Previous Messages**



# Vaccines are effective and continue to offer us the best protection while Covid is still around

- Covid-19 has not gone away and people who have not yet vaccinated continue to suffer the most if they get Covid, even when they have already had Covid before.
- Severe illness, hospitalisation and death is highest amongst people who haven't vaccinated.
- September is also heart awareness month and there are reports that men who are over 50 years are at greater risk for cardio vascular disease after having had Covid-19.

# Booster vaccines are great for keeping your immunity up especially if you are more vulnerable to severe illness

- Everyone eighteen years and older is encouraged to get the booster vaccine as soon as they are due.
- Long-Covid, where symptoms continue for weeks, even months can be reduced by being vaccinated and boosted.

# Make sure the information you are basing your decisions on is correct by calling the contact centre 0800 029 999 and do a fact check

- Anti-vaxxers have spread a lot of mis-, dis- and mal-information that it is often hard to work out what is factual and what is not when it comes to Covid-19 and the vaccines.
- The Covid-19 contact centre can assist.

### **Progress with the Vaccination Rollout**



Daily vaccination statistics

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

#### **Progress by 8 September 2022**

HOIT	At Icast one		· wii y	
•	dose	% '	vaccinated	%
% Total pop.	22 281 426	36,9%	19 350 978	32,1%
% Adult pop.	20 372 442	51,2%	18 580 918	46,7%
60+	3 950 808	71,8%	3 654 865	66,4%
50-59 yrs	3 221 017	66,9%	3 087 314	64,1%
35-49 yrs	6 418 234	54,9%	6 035 016	51,6%
18-34 yrs	6 779 513	38,1%	5 802 374	32,6%
12-17 yrs	1 908 984	30,6%	770 060	12,3%
<b>Booster doses</b>	3 704 302			
Unidentified	2 870		1 349	

Looking for a vaccination site?

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





# **Interventions & Updates**

#### **Boosters**

Vaccine boosters help to keep your immunity up and reduce your chance of being hospitalised or getting very ill from Covid-19.

If you are over 50 years and have a comorbidity a booster is a must to keep you healthy and fend off severe illness should you get Covid-19. You can also get an extra booster dose.

A booster dose is available for everyone who is 18 years and up.

Unsure of your schedule then give the contact centre a call 0800 029 999.



Download your vaccine certificate https://vaccine.certificate.health.gov.za

#### Not able to get your certificate?

Call the contact centre on 0800 029 999 to assist you with downloading it.
They can help if:

- You lost your EVDS vaccination code or did not receive an SMS with the code.
- You changed your cell number and need to register a new number.
- Your personal details are not correct on your certificate.



#### **Vax Champs**

Join the network of people who have vaccinated.

vaxchamp.org.za

#### Vooma Podcast: Let's Talk Faith

Visit vooma.org.za to listen.





#### Got a question for the doctors?

This week we chat about eating healthy which includes growing and cooking your own food.

The #Keready doctors are there to answer your health related questions on WhatsApp and the other platforms we are on.

Podcasts: podcast.keready.co.za

Instagram: Wednesday at 7pm @kereadysa

WhatsApp: 060 019 0000





## COMMUNICATIONS HIERARCHY FOR 12 – 18 September 2022

WHAT	<ul> <li>Vaccines give us the best protection while Covid is still around whatever our age.</li> <li>Covid-19 has not gone away and people who have not yet vaccinated continue to suffer the most if they get Covid even when they have already had Covid before.</li> <li>Severe illness, hospitalisation and death is highest amongst people who haven't vaccinated.</li> </ul>					
	If you are over 50 and have vaccinated come for your second booster as you are still more likely to very sick from Covid.					
	<ul> <li>Everyone eighteen years and older is encouraged to get the b fifty their second booster dose.</li> <li>Long-Covid, where symptoms continue for weeks, even months</li> </ul>					
	Make sure the information you are basing your dec 0800 029 999 and do a fact check  Anti-vaxxers have spread a lot of mis-, dis- and mal-information not when it comes to Covid-19 and the vaccines.  The Covid-19 contact centre can assist.	isions on is correct	by calling the contact centre			
WHY	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!					
WHO	Any person in South Africa aged 12 and above should go get	It's for men and women, SA citizens and people living in SA				
	vaccinated right away.  It is also safe for pregnant women to get vaccinated at any stage of pregnancy.	from other countries. Individuals who don't have documents, for whatever reason, are also able to be vaccinated for FREE at public sites.				
	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.					
WHERE	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.	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				
HOW	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* Dnumber#  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.  • 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  Once you are fully vaccinated, you can download your Vaccination Certificate from https://vaccine.certificate.health.gov.za/	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.	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.			
WHAT IF	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.	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.				

If you have any questions, call the COVID-19 hotline on 0800 029 999.

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