



**DIRECTOR GENERAL
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**TO:
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS
DISTRICT, HOSPITAL AND PHC MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINE PROGRAMME MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINATION SITE MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINATORS**

NATIONAL VACCINATION PROGRAMME CIRCULAR 1 OF 2023

**UPDATE TO COVID-19 VACCINATION SCHEDULE: ADDITIONAL BOOSTER DOSE
FOR PERSONS 18 YEARS AND OLDER**

1. From Monday, 30th January 2023 **persons 18 years and older** will be eligible to receive an **additional booster dose** providing that a period of at least **180 days** has elapsed since they received their last Covid-19 vaccination.
2. This means that **adults 50 years and older** will be eligible to receive a **total of five doses**, and **adults 18 – 49 years** will be eligible to receive a **total of four doses**.
3. Where available, these doses should be administered using the Comirnaty® vaccine. However COVID-19 vaccine Janssen® may also be used, if the Comirnaty® vaccine is not available or if the person prefers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®.
4. The schedule for **persons 50 years and older** will therefore be as follows:

SCHEDULE FOR PERSON 50 YEARS AND OLDER: Updated 30 January 2023								
Primary Schedule	Booster doses							
One dose								
COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®	Minimum of 60 day interval	COVID- 19 vaccine Janssen® OR Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 90 day interval	COVID- 19 vaccine Janssen® OR Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 120 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID- 19 vaccine Janssen®	Minimum of 180 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID- 19 vaccine Janssen®

OR

SCHEDULE FOR PERSON 50 YEARS AND OLDER: Updated 30 January 2023								
Primary Schedule			Boosteroses					
First dose		Second dose						
Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 21 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 90 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®	Minimum of 120 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®	Minimum of 180 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®

5. The schedule for adults aged 18 – 49 years will therefore be as follows:

SCHEDULE FOR ADULTS 18 – 49 YEARS: Updated 30 January 2023						
Primary Schedule	Booster doses					
One dose						
COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®	Minimum of 60 day interval	COVID-19 vaccine Janssen® OR Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 90 day interval	COVID-19 vaccine Janssen® OR Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 180 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®

OR

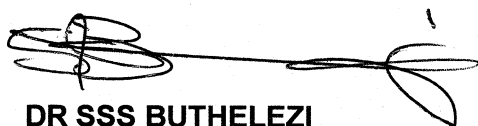
SCHEDULE FOR ADULTS 18 – 49 YEARS: Updated 30 January 2023						
Primary Schedule			Booster doses			
First dose		Second dose				
Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 21 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 90 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®	Minimum of 180 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine OR COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®

6. Adults (18 years and older) who are registered on the EVDS as being immunocompromised will be eligible to receive the additional booster doses providing that a period of 180 days has elapsed since their previous booster dose.

7. The schedule for adolescents 12 - 17 years remains unchanged.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOLESCENTS 12 – 17 YEARS: Updated 23 February 2022		
Primary Schedule		
First dose		Second dose
Comirnaty® Vaccine	Minimum of 21 day interval	Comirnaty® Vaccine

8. The EVDS has been updated to accommodate the revised schedule, and vaccinators are reminded that all administered doses must be correctly recorded on the EVDS.



DR SSS BUTHELEZI
DIRECTOR-GENERAL: HEALTH

DATE: 23/01/2023