

VACCINE ASSIST PROGRAMME
BACKGROUND TO POSTER SET 6:
SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL COVID-19 VACCINATION PROCESS

1. What must I know?

- How do I get my COVID-19 vaccine?
- How do I register for the vaccination programme?
- What happens once I'm registered?
- What can I expect when I go to be vaccinated?

2. How will I explain it?

- **How do I get my COVID-19 vaccine?**

In order to get a COVID-19 vaccine, everyone has to register on the National Department of Health's Electronic Vaccination Data System. Unless you register, you will not be able to have a vaccine.

You will have to wait until you are eligible in terms of the rollout plan to register. The vaccination rollout has been divided into three phases so that the most vulnerable members of our society get vaccinated first. The first phase started in February 2021, for all healthcare workers. Phase two focuses on the elderly (those over 60 years old), essential workers (like the police), those with co-morbidities (like diabetes) and those living in congregate settings (like prisons and nursing homes). It is planned that phase three will start in November 2021, when everyone else over the age of 18 can be vaccinated.

Once you have completed your CareWorks health assessment, Dr M and her team will let you know when it is your turn to register. You will not be allowed to register until it is your turn to do so!

- **How do I register for the vaccination programme?**

There are various ways to register. You can do so online at the following address: vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za. The process takes about 3 minutes.

Other ways to register are:

- WhatsApp: send the word "register" to 0600 123 456 and follow the instructions
- Use the short code: *134*832#

- Your cell phone number will be used to send you details of your appointment. You will need your ID number or passport number to register, as well as your medical aid details if you are privately insured. If you do not have an ID or passport number, you can use your asylum seeker or refugee number.

You will also need a cell phone number, and either a work or home address, so that the department can contact you when it is your turn to be vaccinated, and schedule an appointment site that is near you.

There has also been an announcement that you will be able to register in person at vaccination sites, but details of how this will work have not been confirmed.

If you have any questions about registration, Dr M and her team can help you.

- **What happens once I'm registered?**

Once you have successfully registered, you will get an SMS confirming your registration. You will get another SMS when it is your turn to be vaccinated. This could take up to three weeks.

This SMS will have a code which is unique to you, as well as details of your appointment. You will be directed to a vaccination site that is closest to where you live or work. You will need to show this unique code when you go to get vaccinated.

- **What can I expect when I go to be vaccinated?**

Remember to take your ID document or passport (whichever you used for registration) when you go to your appointment, as well as your medical aid details if you entered these at registration. Make sure you have your SMS with your unique code to hand as well! You will not be able to get your vaccine if you do not have these documents.

You will receive counselling and have to sign consent; after which you will receive an injection in your arm.

When it is time for your second dose, another SMS will be sent to you: you will follow the same procedure as you did for your first dose.

After your second dose, you will be fully vaccinated. You will be able to access an electronic vaccination certificate to prove you have been vaccinated.

3. Summarise what has been learnt:

- In order to get a COVID-19 vaccine, everyone has to register on the National Department of Health's Electronic Vaccination Data System. At some stage you will be able to register in person at vaccination sites, but details of how this will work have not been confirmed.
- Once you have completed your CareWorks health assessment, Dr M and her team will let you know when it is your turn to register. You will not be allowed to register until it is your turn to do so.
- You can register:
 - Online at vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za
 - Using WhatsApp by sending "register" to 0600 123 456
 - Using the short code: *134*832#
- In order to register, you need your ID/passport number, medical aid details (if you are insured), cell number and home or work address
- You will receive an SMS confirming your registration
- You will receive an SMS with a unique code, an appointment date and vaccination site when it is your turn to be vaccinated
- You must take your ID/passport, proof of medical aid and your unique SMS code to your appointment
- You will receive counselling before you are vaccinated, and you will receive a second SMS when it is time to have your second dose of vaccine.
- After your second dose, you will be able to access an electronic vaccination certificate to prove you have been vaccinated.
- Dr M and her team at CareWorks are available to help you at every step of the process.

4. Points to discuss with the group:

- During which phase are you eligible to register for the COVID-19 vaccine?
- Have you completed your CareWorks health assessment so that Dr M and her team can help you with registration?

Sources:

<https://www.nicd.ac.za/covid-19-vaccine-rollout-strategy-faq/>

<https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/phase-2-of-sas-covid-19-vaccine-rollout-starts-this-is-how-it-works-20210517>

<https://sacoronavirus.co.za/2021/01/12/what-does-south-africas-covid-vaccine-roll-out-plan-say/>