

**VACCINE ASSIST PROGRAMME
BACKGROUND TO POSTER SET 2:
NATIONAL VACCINATION ROLLOUT**

1. What must I know?

- Who is going to get the vaccine?
- What is the National Vaccination Rollout plan?
- Where do I get my vaccine?
- How do I get my vaccine?

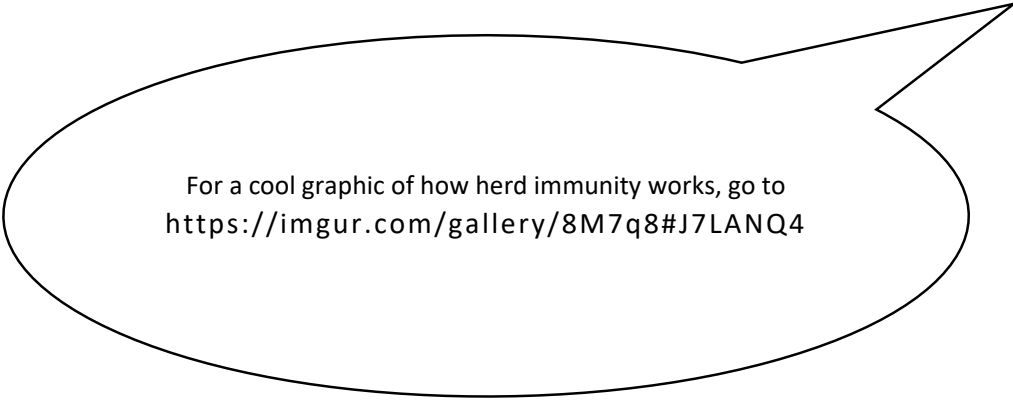
2. How will I explain it?

- **Who is going to get the vaccine?**

Vaccines are an important part of stopping the spread of COVID-19 in our country. They offer protection to individuals by reducing their risk of infection or by reducing the severity of their symptoms.

Vaccines also protect us at a population level. This is referred to as herd immunity, where most people in a population have been vaccinated so that they are immune to the disease. It means the disease cannot spread very easily, so people who cannot be vaccinated are also protected. It is the reason the vaccination programme is a priority in the fight to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The South African Government hopes to vaccinate 41 million adults by the end of February 2022. That is equal to 67% of our population, the minimum required to achieve herd immunity. The government is getting the 41 million vaccines from J&J, Pfizer, and the World Health Organization-backed COVAX facility.



For a cool graphic of how herd immunity works, go to
<https://imgur.com/gallery/8M7q8#J7LANQ4>

- **What is the National Vaccination Rollout plan?**

The South African Government has developed a 3-phase rollout to ensure the most vulnerable in our population get vaccinated first:

Phase 1: February 2021:

- All frontline healthcare workers, estimated to be about 1.2 million people.

Phase 2: May 2021:

- Essential workers (like the police and prison guards), persons in congregate settings (like prisons and care homes), persons over 60 years, persons over 18 years with co-morbidities – around 17.3 million people.
- About 16 million, or more than a quarter of our population, are thought to suffer co-morbidities. Among half are people living with HIV/AIDS, while the remainder have chronic conditions, such as TB, diabetes, obesity, cancer, hypertension, high cholesterol and lung ailments, including silicosis from working on South Africa's gold mines.

Phase 3: November 2021:

- Everyone else over the age of 18 – about 22.5 million people

NOTE: If you're a healthcare worker or over 60, you can register now!

- **Where do I get my vaccine?**

Vaccines will be administered at public and private vaccination centres throughout the country. They will be delivered using three platforms during phase one:

- Work-based programmes: Best for hospital-based staff, especially at district level private and public hospitals.
- Outreach-based programmes using mobile teams moving between facilities. Best for primary healthcare providers, community health workers, and private medical centres
- Vaccination centres, particularly in remote areas. Ideal for independent healthcare workers.

During phases two and three, the same programmes will be used, with the addition of vaccinations at public primary healthcare facilities such as occupational health clinics and pharmacy-based clinics.

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

All South Africans who want to be vaccinated against COVID-19 must register on the national Electronic Vaccination Data System as they become eligible.

Those who qualify will be sent a notification through SMS, with a unique code, informing them of the time and place where their injection will be administered. Individuals will have to present their unique code (received through SMS), their original ID document, valid driver's licence, passport or affidavit at the vaccination site.

You will find the national vaccination register at:

- vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za
- WhatsApp 'Register' to: 0600 123 456
- USSD: *134*832#

3. Summarise what has been learnt

- Vaccines are an important part of stopping the spread of COVID-19 in our country.
- The South African Government hopes to vaccinate 41 million adults by the end of February 2022. That is equal to 67% of our population, the minimum required to achieve herd immunity.
- The South African Government has developed a 3-phase rollout to ensure the most vulnerable in our population get vaccinated first.
- Phase 1: February 2021: all frontline healthcare workers
- Phase 2: May 2021: essential workers (like the police and prison guards), persons in congregate settings (like prisons and care homes), persons over 60 years, persons over 18 years with co-morbidities – around 17.3 million people.
- About 16 million, more than a quarter of our population, suffer co-morbidities. Among half are people living with HIV/AIDS, while the remainder have chronic conditions, such as TB, diabetes, obesity, cancer, hypertension, high cholesterol and lung ailments, including silicosis from working on South Africa's gold mines.
- Phase 3: November 2021: Everyone else over the age of 18
- Vaccines will be administered at public and private vaccination centres throughout the country.
- All South Africans who want to be vaccinated against COVID-19 must register on the national Electronic Vaccination Data System as they become eligible.
- If you're a healthcare worker or over 60, you can register now.
- You will find the national vaccination register at
 - vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za
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4. Points to discuss with the group:

- How do you plan to access the national vaccination register so that you can register for a vaccination?
- How will you explain herd immunity to your family?

Sources:

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

<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/covid-19-vaccine-rollout-south-africa-need-to-know/>

<https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/analysis/2021/4/28/south-africas-daunting-COVID-19-vaccine-rollout>