



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

VACCINATION OF HEALTH PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR DURING PHASE 1b OF THE COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME

This circular provides information on:

- The categories of health personnel who will be included in Phase 1b of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme.
- What beneficiaries should do to be vaccinated.
- What documentation beneficiaries will require for identification and verification purposes at the vaccination site (these documents will need to be provided at the time of vaccination).

Who will be vaccinated i.e who is a beneficiary?

- All health personnel as defined in the National Health Act will be eligible to be vaccinated.
- This includes:
 - Health care providers who are defined as any persons providing health services in terms of any law;
 - Health workers who are defined as any persons involved in the provision of health services to a user (but are not a health care providers);
- In practice, this means that all health personnel who are currently working in any Department of Health office or registered public health facility (hospital /clinic / laboratory/pharmacy/care facility), or who are providing health services at community level on behalf of the public sector are eligible to be vaccinated.
- Health care workers, as well as administrative and support staff, are included.
- Staff providing patient-facing and non-patient facing services are included.
- Funeral workers working in formal funeral homes and registered traditional healers are included.

Beneficiaries therefore include:

- Nurses (all categories)
- Medical doctors (all categories and specialisations)

- Dentists, dental therapists and oral hygienists
- Clinical associates
- Community health workers / liaison and development officers employed by provincial Departments of Health
- Environmental Health practitioners (working for municipalities and provincial Departments of Health)
- Pharmacists and Pharmacist Assistants (fully registered/post-basic /basic)
- Radiographers
- Emergency Medical Practitioners
- Allied health staff (physiotherapists/occupational therapists /psychologists /optometrists /speech therapists /audiologists /biokinetics /nutritionists /dieticians)
- Registered occupational health staff
- Clinical and medical technologists at clinical laboratory services
- Clinical and medical technologists at forensic medical laboratory services
- Blood Transfusion Services laboratory technicians
- Staff working in forensic mortuaries
- Orthotists /prosthetists/podiatrists
- Alternative medicine practitioners (homeopaths/osteopaths/chiropractors)
- Medical/dental /nursing /pharmacy students that are on the clinical training platform
- Staff working at national and provincial health departments and district health offices
- Officials employed by National Port Health Authorities
- Health staff at Department of Correctional Services
- South African Military Health Services (SAMHS)
- Cleaners/housekeeping staff at health establishments and care facilities
- Security services at health establishments and care facilities
- Administrative staff at health establishments and care facilities
- Staff working in student health services at TVETs and HEIs
- Funeral workers (formal funeral homes and volunteers from registered burial societies)
- Registered traditional healers

What beneficiaries should do in order to be vaccinated

1. All eligible beneficiaries should register on the Electronic Vaccine Data System (EVDS) at <https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za>. The beneficiary should answer “yes” to the question: Are you a Health Care Worker? The beneficiary will be directed to the Health Care Worker portal where he/she can register to receive the vaccine. On successful registration, the beneficiary will receive an SMS confirming registration.
2. Staff working in public health facilities will be provided with information regarding vaccination by their facility manager.
3. Once registered, beneficiaries (especially those not working in a facility) may present to their nearest public sector vaccination site (see list of vaccination sites at <https://sacoronavirus.co.za>).
4. It should be noted that beneficiaries will not necessarily be vaccinated immediately, but may be given information regarding when to return for vaccination.
5. Beneficiaries who cannot self-register should consult their facility manager, and can also present at a vaccination site for assistance with registration.

Documentation required for verification at vaccination site

The following documentation will be required when presenting for vaccination or registration at a vaccination site. This documentation is required to verify that the person is a bona-fide beneficiary of this phase of the vaccination programme:

1. South African Identity card/book or driver's license or South African passport or work permit (if foreigner)

AND

2. Proof of Registration with a statutory council (e.g. SANC /HPCSA /SAPC)

OR

Formal date-stamped and signed proof of employment at a health establishment or as per designated category of beneficiaries as outlined above.

Beneficiaries who are members of Medical Scheme should also bring their Medical Scheme/Aid card or details.

Planning and preparation for vaccination of health personnel

District Managers must ensure that all the relevant beneficiaries who work in their district are vaccinated. This includes public sector health personnel, as well as other beneficiaries such as Community Health Workers, registered Traditional Healers, Funeral Workers (as outlined above).

Your assistance in ensuring that all eligible health personnel are vaccinated will be highly appreciated.



Dr SSS Buthelezi
Director-General: Health
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