

Update on COVID-19 vaccination

The Department of Health met with labour in the OR Tambo Region regarding the Johnson and Johnson vaccine roll-out owing to the AstraZeneca vaccine being replaced to report on the following:

- Utilisation of the vaccine will be rolled as 1st Phase at Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital and Livingstone Hospital targeting Health workers and related workers (number of 14 102 employees).
- Health Care Workers will be required to register in the Electronic Vaccine Data Set system which will identify employees that took the vaccine.
- The OR Tambo District has 796 845 population and has targeted 67% population which is 533 886 from the ages of 18 in order to achieve herd immunity. The period of the vaccination will run over 6-9 months period.

Vaccination phases

2nd Phase will be in groups as follows:

- group A (All Essential workers in front line in Government Departments, Municipalities, Retailers)
- Group B – Persons over the age of 60;
- Group C – Persons over the age of 18 with Comorbidities;
- and Group D- people in Congregated settings.

3rd Phase – All persons over the age of 18 years.

Training of Personnel

- A total of 82 vaccinators are trained thus far
- 22 vaccination sites have been identified and prepared; 1 tertiary institution; 2 regional; 9 District Hospitals and 10 Community Health Centers.
- Transport has been arranged through NGO's and the Departmental fleet for all clinics 5km away from vaccination sites.
- OHS Committees to be identified for the process of vaccination.

Each institution must be in possession of a safe storage which has a refrigerator and enough diesel for the vaccine to be stored safely. The Department assured stakeholders that an open engagement platform is established in order to brief them on the development of the implementation of vaccine. The PSA continues to motivate members to follow the COVID-19 guidelines provided to curb the spread of the virus and not hesitate to report any case of non-compliance to Zandi.nompetsheni@psa.co.za or samkelo.mzuku@psa.co.za or call the Office on (047) 501 2500.

#PSA cares!

GENERAL MANAGER